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Governance for Inclusive Growth (GIG)



Quarterly Performance Report (QPR) #6

(Q3 FY2015)

April 1 – June 30, 2015

Cover Photo: International expert Inkyo Cheong trains MOF officers on methodologies to analyze the impact of Free Trade Agreements on State revenue. June 16, 2015, Hanoi.

Program: Governance for Inclusive Growth Program, Vietnam (GIG)
Report title: Quarterly Performance Report #6: April 1 – June 30, 2015
Contract No. AID-OAA-I-12-00035/AID-486-TO-14-00002
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ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS

AC	Anti-corruption
AD	Administrative decisions
ADB	Asian Development Bank
APCA	Administrative Procedure Control Agency
APD	Academy for Policy Development, MPI
APS	Annual Program Statement
ASEAN	Association of Southeast Asian Nations
AWP	Annual Work Plan
BCI	Business Consortium for Innovation
CCRD	Center for Rural Communities Research and Development
CDI	Center for Development and Integration
CDP	Counterpart direct procurement
CEPEW	Centre for Education Promotion and Empowerment of Women
CFAW	Committee for the Advancement of Women
CFBA	Committee on Finance and Budgetary Affairs
CIDA	Foreign Affairs, Trade and Development Canada
CIEM	Central Institute for Economic Management
CITES	Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species
CPP	Contract Performance Plan
CSIP	Center for Social Innovation Promotion
CSO	Civil society organization
CWT	Combatting wildlife trafficking
DBI	Doing Business Indicators
DEPOCEN	Development and Policies Research Center
DFAT	Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Australia
DQA	Data quality assessment
DTA	Direct technical assistance
ESTH	Environment, Science, Technology, and Health, US Embassy
EU	European Union
FARA	Fixed-amount Reimbursement Agreement
FTA	Free trade agreement
FPT	VN private ICT company
GAO	Government Accountability Office
GDA	Global Development Alliance
GDT	General Department of Taxation
GDVC	General Department of Vietnam Customs, MOF
GESI	Gender Equality and Social Inclusion
GIA	Gender Impact Assessment
GIG	Governance for Inclusive Growth
GPAP	Cooperation Group for Governance and Public Administration Reform
GSO	General Statistics Office, MPI
GUC	Grant under contract
GVN	Government of Vietnam
HCMC	Hi Chi Minh City
HLU	Hanoi Law University

HNEW	Hanoi Association of Women Entrepreneurs
IFC	International Finance Corporation
IIE	Institute for International Education
ILO	International Labor Organization
iSee	Institute for Studies of Society, Economics, and Environment
ISS	Instant Support System
JICA	Japan International Cooperation Agency
KRA	Key Result Area
LAI	Law on Access to Information
LANDA	Land Alliance
LERES	Center for legal research and Services
LGBT	Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender
LND	Legal Normative Document
M&E	Monitoring and Evaluation
MARD	Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development
MIC	Ministry of Information and Communications
MOF	Ministry of Finance
MOIT	Ministry of Industry and Trade
MOJ	Ministry of Justice
MOLISA	Ministry of Labor, Invalids, and Social Affairs
MPI	Ministry of Planning and Investment
MP	Member of Parliament
MPS	Ministry of Public Security
MTFF	Medium-Term Fiscal Framework
MUTRAP	Trade Policy and Investment Support Project, EU
NA	National Assembly
NASC	National Assembly Standing Committee
NGO	Nongovernmental organization
NIF	National Institute of Finance
OD	Organizational development
OOG	Office of the Government
OSC	Overseas Strategic Consulting
PCD	Partner Capacity Development program, USAID
PCI	Provincial Competitiveness Index
PIRS	Performance indicators reference sheets
PLHIV	People living with HIV
PM	Prime Minister
PMP	Performance Monitoring Plan
PMU	Program Management Unit
PPA	Public Procurement Agency
PPP	Public-private partnership
PPWG	People's Participation Working Group
QPR	Quarterly Performance Report
RFA	Request for applications
RFP	Request for proposals
RIA	Regulatory impact assessment
ROO	Rules of origin
SAV	State Audit of Vietnam

SBL	State Budget Law
SME	Small and medium enterprise
SO	Social organization
SOE	State-owned enterprise
SOW	Scope of work
STAMEQ	General Department for Standard Metrology and Quality
STTA	Short-term technical assistance
TA	Technical assistance
TBT	Technical barrier to trade
TF	Trade facilitation
TFA	Trade Facilitation Agreement
TOT	Training of trainers
TPLC	Tulane Public Law Center at Tulane University
TPP	Trans-Pacific Partnership
UNDP	United Nations Development Program
USAID	United States Agency for International Development
USG	United States Government
USTR	United States Trade Representative
VBFB	Vietnam Business Forum
VCCI	Vietnam Chamber of Commerce and Industry
VSS	Vietnam Social Security
VJA	Vietnam Journalists Association
VTFA	Vietnam Trade Facilitation Alliance
VWEC	Vietnam Women Entrepreneurs Council
VWU	Vietnam Women's Union
WB	World Bank
WCO	World Customs Organization
WEN	Wildlife Enforcement Network
WTO	World Trade Organization

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INTRODUCTION

Driven by USAID’s Country Development Cooperation Strategy for Vietnam 2014-2018, the USAID Governance for Inclusive Growth (GIG) program is USAID’s primary activity for cooperation with the public and private sectors in Vietnam. The program aims to enhance areas of governance to facilitate broader-based growth, with an emphasis on the legal framework and systems for accountability. Partnering with our prime counterpart, the Ministry of Justice (MOJ), GIG supports the mandates of six key counterparts: MOJ, Ministry of Industry and Trade (MOIT), National Assembly (NA), Ministry of Finance (MOF), State Audit Office of Vietnam (SAV), and Ministry of Planning and Investment (MPI).

Working at the intersection of economic growth, governance, and inclusion, GIG works in three distinct but integrated technical areas, with a public outreach effort that works closely with the technical teams:

- Component 1: Improving legal and regulatory frameworks through a dynamic, inclusive policy-making process.
- Component 2: Improving accountability of public institutions.
- Component 3: Improving inclusion and equality for marginalized groups.
- Cross-Cutting: Improving public outreach and public policy reporting; grants to catalyze systemic engagement of CSOs in the reform process.

“This year the United States and Vietnam are celebrating 20 years since the normalization of our diplomatic relations. The U.S. supports a strong, prosperous, and independent Vietnam that respects the rule of law. Economic growth and good governance are two of our shared priorities and key areas of our bilateral cooperation...The USAID Governance for Inclusive Growth program is cooperating with and supporting its many counterparts, including the National Assembly, the Ministry of Planning and Investment, the Ministry of Industry and Trade, and the Ministry of Finance in understanding and preparing for TPP implementation.”

USAID/Vietnam Mission Director,
Joakim Parker
June 16, 2015, Hanoi, Vietnam

The GIG program represents an investment in Vietnam’s future growth. GIG’s multi-year priority areas – which align with the GIG Results Framework and USAID’s technical priorities – govern all program activities. The following table summarizes GIG’s Year 2 priority program objectives and serves as a guide to all Q3 FY 2015 activities described in this report.

GIG Year 2 Priority Program Objectives
Component 1: Legal & Regulatory Reform <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Build a transparent and participatory law-making and regulatory process ● Enhance competitiveness and the business environment ● Improve trade facilitation and prepare for the TPP
Component 2: Governance & Accountability <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Improve policy development and execution through better oversight processes ● Facilitate broad-based growth through effective public financial management ● Enhance public policy legitimacy through participation, feedback, and media
Component 3: Inclusive Growth <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Mainstream inclusion into law-making and governance processes ● Address policy and legal barriers to equal development for marginalized groups ● Increase the exercising of citizen rights, through awareness and accountability ● Pursue inclusive business approaches among GVN, business, and civil society
Cross-Cutting: Public Outreach <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Enhance government outreach to citizens, businesses, CSOs, and marginalized groups ● Improve media's public policy reporting, for greater transparency and accountability

In accordance with the program's priority areas, GIG supports USAID and the Government of Vietnam's (GVN) ambitious efforts to address governance issues and support sustainable, inclusive growth. When launching the GIG program in 2013, Secretary of State John Kerry differentiated it from typical aid programs: "I want to make that clear. This is an investment." GIG's goal is to maximize this important investment by focusing on creating partnerships and building trust to leverage opportunities for meaningful, sustainable reform throughout Vietnam. The program is comprised of three technical components, but GIG coordinates all activities horizontally across the components, particularly for critical policy issues.

This quarter, GIG coordinated efforts on such multi-year GIG priority areas such as the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP), the WTO Trade Facilitation Agreement (TFA), implementation of Resolution 19, the Law on Laws, the Civil Code, and the State Budget and Procurement Law. GIG integrates principles of gender equality and social inclusion (GESI) into all possible activities.

This quarter, GIG built on investments and momentum generated since the program's inception. The accelerated pace of GIG's Q3 FY 2015 activities demonstrates the program is now in full implementation mode, in accordance with GIG's Year 2 Annual Work Plan (AWP-2). GIG is now crafting and executing multiple activities across every component, and with every government counterpart and a host of civil society and private sector partners. Additionally, program initiatives and component activities are aligned with the high-level priorities of GIG, USAID/USG, GVN, and other stakeholders. Finally, GIG is now connecting activities to the institutional processes or routines of

counterpart and partner organizations, thereby enhancing policymaking over the long term.

GIG activities reach throughout Vietnam, extending from the northernmost to the southernmost provinces and including a broad sampling of Vietnamese people. The map below shows where GIG activities over the past six quarters. During the reporting period, GIG held activities in approximately nine different provinces (represented by red markers, right), including an even greater sampling of provinces, as regional events included participants from multiple provinces (represented by green markers, right).

The enthusiastic support from Vietnamese counterparts, event participants, USAID officials, and U.S. Embassy Vietnam, demonstrates the GIG program's progress. After a National Institute of Finance (NIF)-GIG event on the TPP, *Vietnam Plus English* quoted NIF Deputy Director Truong Ba Tuan, discussing the productive partnership between NIF and GIG: "The USAID and NIF have been working together in the Vietnam Governance for Inclusive Growth (GIG) project to establish a set of tools for assessing FTA impacts on key sectors as well as state budget collection."¹

As our partners' endorsements illustrate, GIG had significant accomplishments across multiple components and activities during the reporting period. The program helped Vietnam realize major progress in legal and regulatory reform, enhancing governance and accountability, and advocating inclusive growth.



¹ <http://en.vietnamplus.vn/Home/Impacts-of-FTAs-on-state-budget-collection-discussed/20156/67310.vnplus>

GIG is collaborating with GVN counterparts to engage media in our joint activities and support improved reporting. As a result, the achievements and milestones of GIG and its counterparts were highlighted in more than 137 newspaper articles and TV broadcasts during the quarter. Over the past 12 months, GIG’s work with counterparts has been highlighted in more than 600 articles or TV broadcasts, shining a spotlight on the shared priorities and strong cooperation between USAID and the Government of Vietnam.

In addition to this coverage, GIG worked with MOJ and the Central Institute for Economic Management (CIEM) to develop two in-depth TV specials in the quarter. The first was a 30-minute TV special focused on MOJ’s work to support LGBT rights in Vietnam’s revised Civil Code, broadcast on VTV on May 14, 2015 with four repeat broadcasts. The second was a 30-minute TV special focused on CIEM’s success implementing Resolution 19 to improve Vietnam’s business environment and increase national competitiveness, broadcast by VITV on April 1, 2015 with two repeat broadcasts.



GIG personnel continued regular interactions with USG agencies – involving and facilitated by USAID – across a range of policy and process issues aligned with the program’s AWP-2. Additionally, GIG partnered with International Organizations (IOs), Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs), international development agencies, and international businesses and business associations to facilitate broader-based, sustainable growth in Vietnam. GIG plans to further explore potential partnerships to leverage opportunities to advance governance reform objectives with international NGOs with existing and emerging efforts in GIG’s priority areas.

**National Assembly
1st Session of 2015
May- June 2015**

During the reporting period, the National Assembly held its first session, during which deputies addressed issues critical to GIG program objectives.

Law on Laws

On June 22, 2015, the National Assembly passed the “Law on Laws.” The law includes major improvements, including several GIG recommendations. For example, the new law requires a stronger policy-making process prior to law drafting. It also enhances consultation by requiring publication of public comments and establishment of a centralized website for public consultation. Finally, it mandates improved control of circulars and administrative procedures and requires that Regulatory Impact Assessments (RIAs) include gender impact analyses. Prior to GIG’s recommendations during the bill-drafting process, these provisions had not been included in the draft Law on Laws.

State Budget Law

On June 25, 2015, the National Assembly passed a new State Budget Law (SBL). The SBL promotes budget transparency by clarifying all types of debt, addressing overspending issues at the central and local levels, requiring budget monitoring by the community, and supporting gender equality. The final law included several GIG recommendations, including a provision to ensure gender equality in state budget management (Article 8) and gender responsive budgeting requirements for the annual state budget estimation (Article 40). The new SBL will facilitate broad-based growth through effective public financial management and improve policy development and execution through better oversight processes. In addition to gender budgeting issues, GIG recommended numerous technical revisions that are included in the new law, such as:

- Addressing overspending at the provincial (not just central) level (Article 4);
- Incorporating “loan” instead of “fund mobilization” (Article 7 paragraph 5 point b); and
- Allowing central and local-level annual funding increases upon the decision of competent agencies to equalize budgets across provinces (Article 9, paragraph 7, point b).

GIG's Potential Partnerships				
USG Agencies	IOs	NGOs	Embassies & Int'l Dev. Agencies	Business Ass'ns
USAID/ Washington	International Labor Organization	ActionAid Vietnam	Canadian Embassy	AmCham Vietnam
US CBP	UN WOMEN	Asia Foundation	Belgian Embassy	VCCI
	UNICEF	Care International	French Embassy	VTFA
	UNDP	International Orphanage	GIZ	WECREATE
	UNESCO	Oxfam International	Justice Initiative Facilitation Fund (JIFF)	
	World Bank	North Net	Netherlands Development Organization	
		Norway Alliance in Vietnam		

During the reporting period, GIG's Monitoring & Evaluation (M&E) team tracked a total of 30 program indicators in four categories:

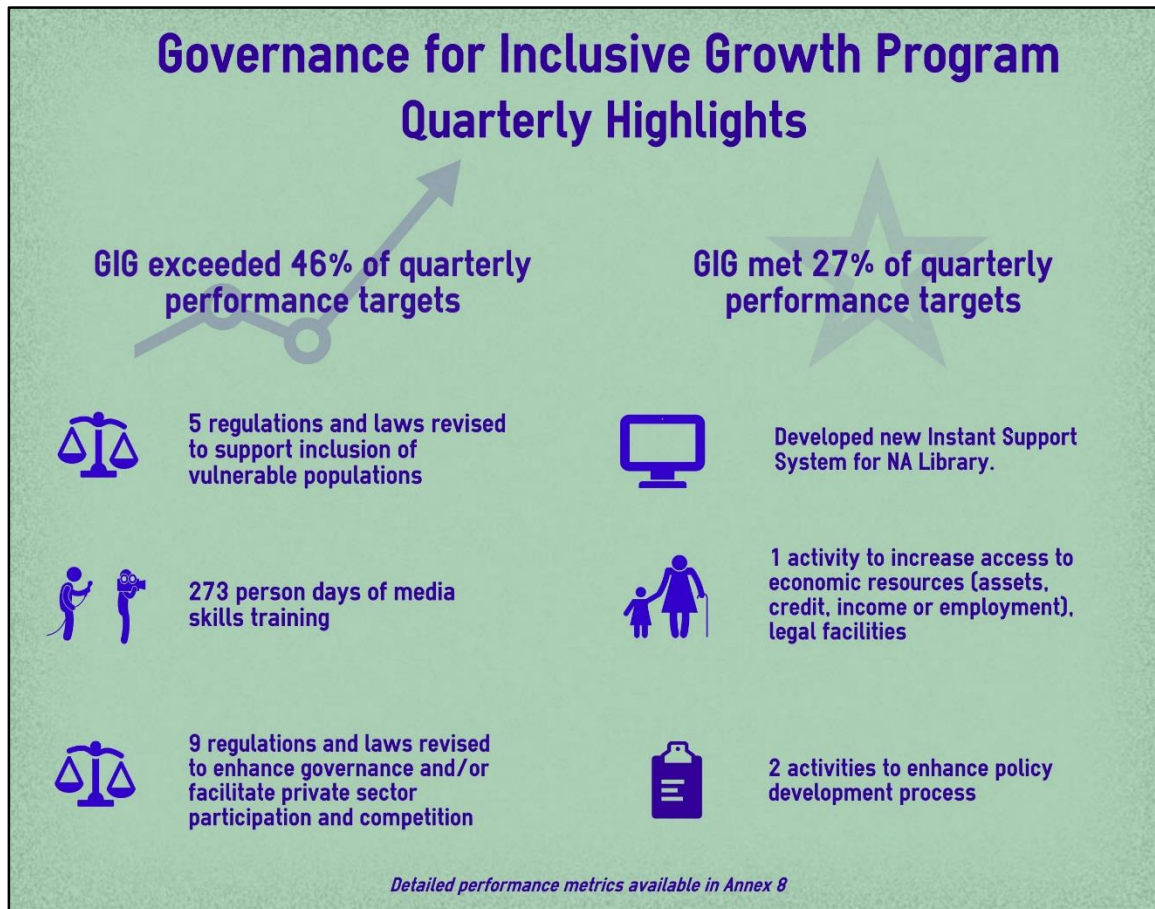
- Context (3)
- Impact (5)
- Performance (19)
- Cross-cutting (3)

M&E will evaluate the context and impact indicators (eight total) at the end of FY 2015. The performance and cross-cutting indicators are evaluated on a quarterly basis. Of the 22 indicators assessed this quarter, GIG achieved (27%) or exceeded 16 (46%) of the five planned targets.

GIG did not reach six milestones planned for this quarter, but this figure includes one milestone—CSO participation in legislative proceedings and/or via advocacy with the NA (3.2.1)—that was already achieved in previous quarters (and already exceeds the annual target). Two indicators—policy research initiatives on gender, ethnic minorities, and other vulnerable groups (3.3.1) and activities to promote women's leadership/entrepreneurship and empower target groups (3.3.2)—have not been achieved because the related activities are on hold per MOJ PMU guidance. However, for indicator 3.3.1, GIG has already achieved two of the three activities planned for the year and is on track to meet the annual target.

GIG did not hold any training sessions on audits for GVN staff (2.1.2) this quarter, but is discussing training sessions on audits for staff with SAV. Although GIG did not codify and/or systemize one section this quarter (1.4.1), MOIT and other counterparts have

already engaged in significant preparation for codification and GIG will continue pursuing this objective in future quarters. Finally, GIG did not form two new public-private partnerships (C.O.1), but was actively engaged with business associations during the quarter and will continue pursuing the objective in future quarters.



This quarterly report describes significant impacts and key activities for each technical area from April 1 to June 30, 2015. It also reflects on challenges and opportunities encountered during implementation, and previews activities in the upcoming quarter.

SECTION I: PROGRAM IMPLEMENTATION

COMPONENT 1: IMPROVING LEGAL AND REGULATORY FRAMEWORKS THROUGH DYNAMIC, INCLUSIVE POLICY-MAKING PROCESS

GIG works in close coordination with GVN counterparts to improve legal and regulatory frameworks by identifying challenges, strengthening public consultation and engagement, and improving capacity for legal drafting, debating, and enactment. GIG focuses on increasing trade and investment in Vietnam, especially in preparing for the TPP, and enhancing private sector capacity and competitiveness via the WTO TFA and Resolution 19, which sets Vietnam's business environment and competitiveness targets.

COMPONENT 1: SIGNIFICANT IMPACTS IN Q3 FY 2015

This quarter, GIG helped build the capacity of GVN counterparts to create a more clear and transparent legal and regulatory framework. GIG also helped prepare Vietnamese government agencies and businesses for the anticipated TPP, which will spur trade and investment in Vietnam.

Enhanced Business Environment and Competitiveness via Resolution 19. Resolution 19/2015, a continuation of Resolution 19/2014, adopted last quarter, puts forward a more comprehensive plan to improve Vietnam's business environment and regional competitiveness, using the World Bank Doing Business Indicators (DBIs) as benchmarks for success. The DBIs measure regulations' compliance burden on businesses in areas such as: starting a business, dealing with construction permits, getting electricity, registering property, getting credit, protecting minority investors, paying taxes, trading across borders, enforcing contracts, and resolving insolvency. Resolution 19/2015 sets ambitious goals for Vietnam: achieving DBIs equivalent to the average in the countries of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN 6: Singapore, Malaysia, Thailand, Indonesia, Philippines, Brunei) in 2015, and DBIs equivalent to the ASEAN 4 (Singapore, Malaysia, Thailand, and Philippines) in 2016.

During the reporting period, GIG helped GVN make considerable progress on Resolution 19 implementation through a variety of technical assistance. For example, GIG educated international companies on completing the World Trade Organization's (WTO) new Doing Business questionnaire for trading across borders. GIG also translated the questionnaire to enable Vietnamese traders to participate in this survey and provide a better assessment to enhance policy formulation and implementation. GIG also advised the GVN on quality, hygiene, and safety for import and export food under the jurisdiction of the Ministry of Health (MOH). These recommendations would result in a reduction in the time required for food safety inspections and facilitate trade.

Finally, GIG provided valuable inputs to MPI on their re-scoring report to the World Bank (WB) Doing Business team and quarterly summary report on the implementation of Resolution 19/2015 to the Prime Minister. The re-scoring report provides the WB Doing Business team with updates on regulations changes with regards to business environment, facilitating them to have a closer analysis on what is really happening in Vietnam. By adding the perspective of Vietnamese businesses on specialized management, GIG helped MPI provide the Prime Minister with a more holistic assessment of Resolution 19 implementation.

Implemented Key Requirements of the World Trade Organization's Trade Facilitation Agreement. The WTO Trade Facilitation Agreement (TFA) requires numerous structural changes to support free trade. Key requirements include streamlining specialized management of import-export goods, classifying Category B&C commitments (i.e. measurements required by the WTO TFA), and establishing a Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT) e-notification system. To help GVN comply with the WTO TFA, GIG worked extensively with GDVC throughout the quarter, resulting in the first comprehensive blueprint for customs reform, which will serve as GVN's framework to comply with WTO TFA requirements. GIG and GDVC proposed a structure for the National Trade Facilitation Committee (NTFC), which would satisfy WTO TFA requirements that Vietnam have a trade facilitation committee once the TFA is signed. GIG also made progress on the TBT e-notification system, which will increase the efficiency and effectiveness of this notification process.

GIG also helped GDVC enhance customs efficiency by improving compliance with the WTO TFA requirement that import/export businesses pay taxes electronically. GIG advised GDVC on improvements to the e-payment process outlined in Circular 126/2014/TT-BTC, which introduced e-payment of customs duties and taxes, removing the necessity to pay in person. This is an important step in speeding up the payment process and ultimate clearance of goods and is a key requirement of the WTO Trade Facilitation Agreement and revised Kyoto Convention on modernization and simplification of procedures. Since enactment of Circular 126, 64% of companies have begun using e-payment. GIG technical assistance will help GDVC progress toward the GVN's goal of 100% of e-payment usage by 2016.

Improved Vietnam's law- and rule-making process, through adoption of the Law on Laws and RIA training. The Law on Laws, which the NA passed on June 22, represents a breakthrough in Vietnamese efforts to reform its legal and regulatory system. This law is critical for Vietnam, and foundational for GIG's program objectives, as it governs how laws and rules are made throughout the country. GIG supported the Law on Laws through various forms of technical assistance including workshops, policy guidance, legal review, recommendations, etc.

The new Law on Laws is the first law covering issuance of law and regulations from the highest (NA) to the lowest (commune) levels. As a result of the new law, higher

standards of publication and consultation for central level regulations are now applicable to the local regulations. Major improvements reflecting GIG recommendations include: 1) a stronger policy-making process prior to law drafting; 2) enhanced consultation by requiring publication of public comments and establishment of a centralized website for public consultation; 3) improved control of circulars and administrative procedures. While these improvements are notable, the Law on Laws does not include all GIG recommendations, and is silent on several important points, including: 1) establishment of an independent regulatory coordinating agency; 2) abuse of official letters to promulgate rules; and 3) rulemaking powers ceded to key regulators such as tax, customs, securities agencies, etc.

Strengthened Rule of Law via Civil Code Drafting. During the reporting period, GIG and MOJ worked with CSOs, businesses, and legal practitioners to analyze the draft Civil Code. Because the Civil Code is regarded as the master law in the legal system, its revisions will have wide-reaching social impacts, affecting specialized laws such as the Commercial Law, the Law on Marriage and Family, etc. GVN undertook the 2015 Civil Code revisions in the context of Vietnam's deeper and broader international integration, and the changes in the new, revised 2013 Constitution, setting forth the most progressive recognition of Vietnamese citizen rights to date. GIG continued to support the amendment of the 2015 Civil Code by facilitating consultations between MOJ and the Vietnamese legal community, CSOs, academia, and researchers on policy issues. In addition to providing direct technical assistance, GIG helped MOJ conduct impact assessments on the eight primary issues of the Civil Code, including: 1) responsibility of competent agencies for protecting civil rights; 2) subjects of civil-legal relations; 3) legal consequences of a civil transaction non-compliant with formalities; 4) protecting bona fide (good faith) third parties in case of a null and void civil transaction; 5) contract amendments due to changes in circumstance; 6) statute of limitation period for inheritance; 7) mortgage of property; 8) loan payment interest rate. MOJ is finalizing the draft and will submit it to the NA for consideration in their October session.

Launched the Vietnam Trade Facilitation Alliance (VTFA). On April 20, GIG signed a grant agreement with AmCham Ho Chi Minh City (HCMC). After a kick-off meeting in April, VTFA initiated a variety of activities, supporting customs reform and free trade agreements (including TPP) through a variety of engagement with GVN and the Vietnamese trade and business communities. VTFA activities included reviews and analyses of trade policies, customs regulations and laws, a working paper assessing proposed import restrictions, and active participation in conferences and workshops. VTFA played a critical role as an advocate for the Vietnamese trade and business communities, bringing together GVN and Vietnamese trade and business communities. VTFA also conducted an extensive interview on the benefits of TPP and the WTO TFA with the influential journal of the Leading Business Club. This article generated great interest and invitations for VTFA to present on how companies should prepare for TPP and other new trade

agreements. Additional interviews were carried in the Tuoi Tre newspaper², VTV TV, and Vietnam Investment Review.

COMPONENT 1: KEY EVENTS/ACTIVITIES IN Q3 FY 2015

GIG worked with GVN counterparts and CSOs to build a more transparent law-making and regulatory process, in alignment with GIG's Year 2 priority program objectives.

Building a transparent law-making and regulatory process:

GIG continues to work with counterparts and CSOs to build a more transparent law-making and regulatory process by: 1) building capacity in policy-making and advocacy; 2) reforming laws, regulations, and policy-making processes; and 3) supporting public-private partnerships. This three-pronged approach guides programming to encourage more transparent law-making and regulatory processes. Key activities this quarter included:

Training on Skills for implementing an RIA HCMC and Can Tho, June 24-27, 2015

"Together with over 40 university teachers of law and economics in the South, I have found this training course very useful and applicable to our job. It brought us a great tool in training our students of law and helped us find a way out of our deadlock. Even though I have known some elements of RIA already, the program provided a framework, methodology, and cases upon which we can develop our teaching further. We will make a proposal to the Ministry of Education and Training to include this subject in the curriculum for university students. If so, our bachelors, master and Ph.D program will benefit from this knowledge and skills. I believe this will ensure a stable and bright future for Vietnam's legal system. I would like to thank USAID GIG program and the Academy for Policy and Development for conducting this RIA training."

- Mr. Ho Xuan Thang – Ph.D at Saigon University

Standardization of Administrative Procedures.

This quarter, GIG completed training workshops, one for the central highlands provinces and the other for the southern provinces, focused on simplification and standardization of Administrative Procedures (APs) under Decision 08/QĐ-TTg. To address the problem of significant AP duplication and enhance the ease of doing business in Vietnam, GIG helped MOJ develop an online tool to allow local and central agencies to update, store, and standardize their APs online and save them on the national database. This will result in

online access and a reduced workload. In May, GIG hosted a training program on AP standardization for Administrative Procedure Control Agency (APCA) staff to equip them with the latest tools, some of which were developed by GIG consultants. This

² <http://www.baomoi.com/Thuong-mai-song-phuong-Viet-Nam-Hoa-Ky-se-len-72-ti-USD/45/17032613.epi>

training improved APCA staff's skills in standardizing and simplifying administrative procedures to enable them to lead this process and provide technical support to other ministries.

Regulatory Impact Assessment (RIA) Training: GIG and CIEM also hosted a RIA training for 40 university lecturers in Hanoi and Vinh Phuc provinces. The training's objective was to build the capacity of trainers to institutionalize the RIA process in universities. Mr. Hieu, the CIEM instructor, said that although CIEM had already provided 19 similar trainings on RIA, the GIG training was—by far—the best in terms of class participation and participants' engagement. The participants indicated they planned to incorporate RIA into their curricula and said they found the program “very useful.” (MOJ034, CIEM005; KRAs 1.1, 1.2, 1.3)

Law on Administrative Decisions. With GIG technical input, MOJ completed the first draft of the Law on Administrative Decisions, an RIA, and a report on international experiences. The draft Law was subsequently made available on the MOJ website for public comment. (MOJ016; KRAs 1.1; 1.2, 1.3, 1.5, 3.1, 3.2)

Enhancing competitiveness and the business environment:

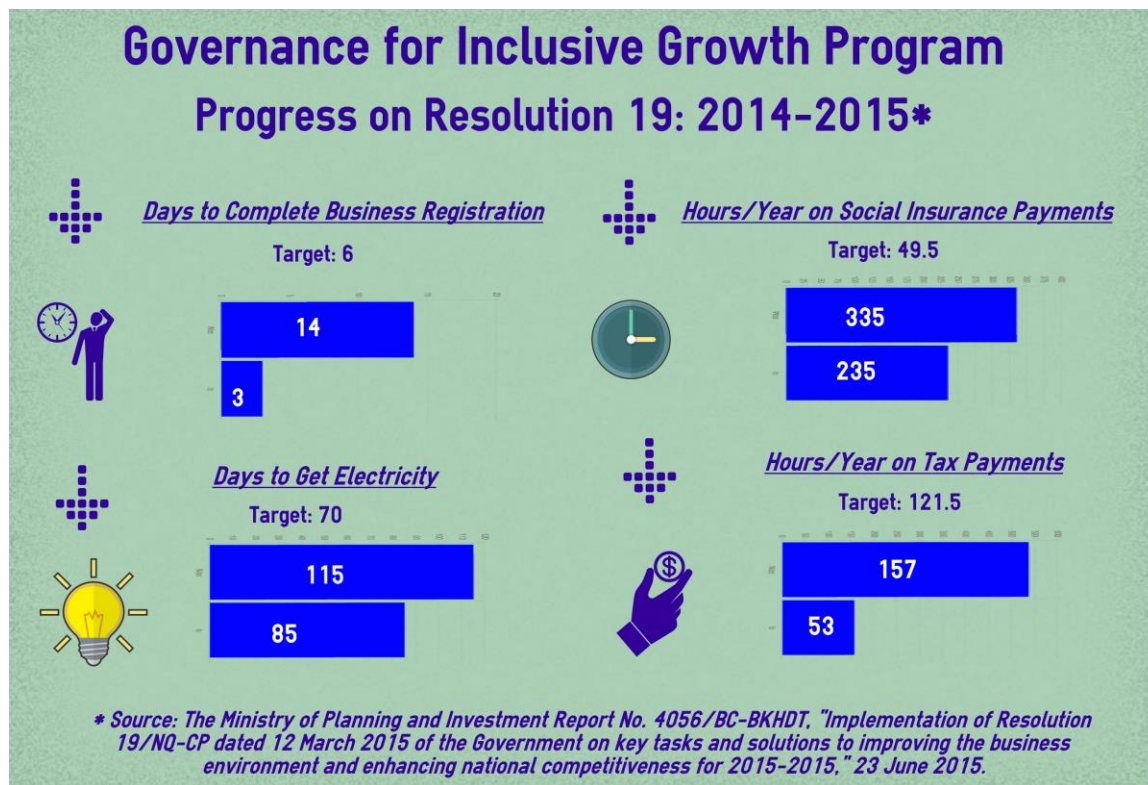
Resolution 19. GIG and CIEM organized a technical workshop to seek input from participants for the three-month report to the Prime Minister on the implementation of GVN's Resolution 19/2015. CIEM's draft report revealed that – despite requirements to do so – a number of ministries have not developed action plans for how to implement the Resolution. The report demonstrated that agencies/provinces have paid insufficient attention to implementing Resolution 19, given that it is a top GVN priority. Although businesses appreciate that Resolution 19 will likely prompt regulatory and administrative reforms that will improve the business environment, they raised concerns with ineffective implementation. GIG's local consultants reported on the compliance burden of traders (e.g. paperwork and time, which translate into financial costs) to comply with specialized management procedures. Furthermore, a number of these procedures have constituted a self-imposed barrier to exports by discouraging Vietnamese businesses from exporting their goods. The event was widely reported by the media. (CIEM004; KRAs 1.1, 1.3, 1.5)



USAID/Vietnam Mission Director Joakim Parker discusses Resolution 19 in a GIG-produced TV special.

Communications Campaign. In addition to working with media to enhance the quality of reporting on complex regulations and reforms to the public, the Public Outreach Team carried out a comprehensive communications campaign on Resolution 19. Working with broadcasters, the Public Outreach Team highlighted the work of USAID and GVN counterparts on priority

issues such as Resolution 19. Key to this campaign was a second TV special focused on momentum gained by CIEM in implementing Resolution 19 to improve Vietnam's business environment and to increase national competitiveness. VITV broadcasted this 30 minute special on April 1, 2015, with two repeat broadcasts.



World Bank Doing Business Indicators. GIG consulted with companies throughout Vietnam on the World Bank's new doing business survey questionnaire on trading across borders. The World Bank's Doing Business Team requested GIG's assistance with this activity, as the new questionnaire is more complicated and required translation. As such, GIG translated the questionnaires into Vietnamese and engaged experts to enable increased participation of Vietnamese traders in this survey and to therefore improve the assessment. GIG's assistance allowed more local companies—many of whom cannot read English—to participate in the survey, enhancing the quality of the trading assessment. (CIEM003; KRAs 1.1, 1.3)

Grant: Amcham Vietnam Trade Facilitation Alliance (VTFA). On April 20, GIG awarded a \$388,180 USD grant to VTFA. Following the grant award, VTFA commenced active participation in a variety of activities, engaging with GVN (GDVC and MOIT), Vietnam Business Forum, VCCI, EuroCham, the Council of Taiwan Chambers of Commerce, and Vietnam Logistics Association, and other organizations. For example, on May 15, VTFA's Nestor Scherbey participated in a workshop hosted by VBF and GDVC on new

customs regulations. Active participation in workshops organized by GDVC, USAID/GIG, and the Vietnam Business Forum (VBF) allowed VTFA to play a leading role in communicating priorities of legal and regulatory reform to GDVC, and to provide specific issue-oriented advice on solutions on behalf of business stakeholders. VTFA also engaged with other private sector organizations to promote understanding of, and support for, the objectives of the VTFA. To increase VTFA participation, VTFA held conferences and initiated negotiations with EuroCham, Council of Taiwan Chamber of Commerce, and the Vietnam Logistics Association concerning their participation in VTFA. Additionally, VTFA established preliminary contacts with the provincial/municipal customs administrations in the key provinces/cities of HCMC, Dong Nai, and Binh Duong. VTFA successfully carried out its public affairs strategy, publishing articles on TPP and WTO TFA commitments in an influential Vietnamese business monthly and the Saigon Times. These articles helped entrepreneurs, business managers, and the media appreciate the benefits of these complex trade agreements. Herb Cochran, the Executive Director of AmCham Vietnam, was the keynote speaker on these topics at a seminar organized by VTFA member Leading Business Club,³ an organization that includes the Top 100 Vietnamese companies. (GUC001)

Improving trade facilitation and preparing for the TPP:

Building Capacity for WTO Compliance - Consultations. During the reporting period, GIG engaged in a broad range of activities to build capacity for WTO compliance, a critical component of supporting broad and inclusive growth in Vietnam. In Lao Cai, GIG and GDVC hosted extensive, multi-party discussions on categorizing of Category B&C commitments. Participants – from local customs authorities, numerous ministries, associations, and businesses – analyzed the 41 measures necessary to comply with new customs laws and regulations and complete Vietnam’s categorization of B&C commitments. As a result, Vietnam has categorized 41 measures stipulated by the WTO TFA into 18A, 16B, and 6C commitments, which will be submitted to the WTO and become legally binding provisions. GIG also focused on “specialized management” (i.e. the customs process) of imports and exports, which is prohibitively complex, time-consuming, expensive, and not aligned with international standards. GIG worked with GVN to focus on overhauling specialized management toward international standards as demanded by Resolution 19. After consultations with GDVC and numerous GVN ministries, GIG helped establish the National Trade Facilitation Council (NTFC). The NTFC is a GVN organization required by the WTO TFA that will institutionalize cooperation between the GVN and businesses on trade issues. (CIEM003, TFA004; KRAs 1.1, 1.3, 1.5, 1.6)

Building Capacity for WTO Compliance – TBT E-Notification System. GIG made progress on technical issues related to WTO FTA implementation, specifically the TBT e-notification system and database. The WTO requires TBTs to be based on objective,

³ <http://www.thesaigontimes.vn/130363/Muon-xuat-hang-vao-My-DN-can-nam-luat.html>

scientific evidence and issued objective notices and comment to WTO members. Vietnam currently uses a dated notification system that is duplicative and inefficient. To support WTO requirements, STAMEQ – with GIG technical assistance – is developing an e-notification system to increase the efficiency and effectiveness of this notification process. This quarter, software engineers conducted successful system tests, connecting to WTO’s TBT database. The engineers expect to have a completed prototype and install it during the next reporting period. (STAM001; KRAs 1.3, 1.5)

“A representative of Vietcombank told the meeting held by the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) and the General Department of Customs that it is necessary to help enterprises understand that electronic receipts can be used to prove tax payments and for goods clearance. Many enterprises still want to wait long to get paper bank receipts for their tax payments.”

- Summary of GIG activities supporting customs E-Payment in Saigon Times, June 22, 2015.

Building Capacity for WTO Compliance – Customs E-Payment. GIG also made progress in implementing a customs e-payment process, consulting with 117 GDVC officers, 61 bankers (including the State Bank), and 25 private sector representatives, including VTFA, on current problems to recommend solutions and amendments to Circular

126/2014/TT-BTC. This workshop sought to resolve e-payment problems in order to achieve the GVN’s 100% usage objective and improve customs efficiencies. Suggestions on improving the system were made by banks, state bank, customs officials and traders. The e-payment system can be utilized for all forms of tax payments, greatly improving the efficiency of tax collection services, and is a major step towards full implementation of a multi-agency single window for import and export processing. (STAM001, TFA004; KRAs 1.3, 1.5, 1.6)

Customs Reform - Survey. GIG and VCCI made significant progress on the Customs Service Survey developed last quarter, receiving over 2,000 responses at the close of the reporting period. VCCI expects to receive 3,100 completed surveys, which is larger than the original estimate of 2,900 responses. This survey will enable the trade community to evaluate customs performance in various sectors and is part of the toolset required for VCCI’s performance management system. Data entry and validation are under way and VCCI expects preliminary results in July. The survey results will be combined with results from the 2011 World Customs Organization time release study to develop a comprehensive, data-based assessment of customs challenges in Vietnam. (TFA004; KRAs 1.3, 1.5, 1.6)

Customs Reform - Self-certification of Rules of Origin for TPP. GIG and MOIT conducted U.S. FTA self-certification of rules of origin workshops for GDVC officials, local MOIT offices (who issue certificates of origin), and businesses in Hanoi and HCMC to educate GDVC and businesses on the U.S. FTA Rules of Origin (ROO). GIG’s international consultant, Nestor Scherbey, discussed the U.S. FTA ROO as a practical

case study. U.S. FTA ROOs differ from other FTAs signed by Vietnam, as they will require importers to self-certify the ROO (not MOIT, as in current practice); therefore it is important for Vietnam policy makers, officials and businesses to understand and comply with them in the future. This training will help prepare GVN agencies and Vietnamese businesses for TPP implementation. (MOIT014; KRA 1.2)

Customs Reform - Law on Import and Export Duties. Throughout the reporting period, GIG actively supported easing import and export restrictions via changes to the Law on Import and Export Duties. In April, GIG held two workshops on the law with GDVC and businesses. At the event, GDVC discussed policy changes to ease restrictions, which received broad support from companies seeking to simplify duty payment procedures. GIG also conducted field visits to companies affected by the law to seek their input on proposed changes. Consultation between GDVC and the private sector is a requirement of the revised Kyoto Convention and WTO Agreement on Trade Facilitation, and it meets international best practices. (TFA004; KRAs 1.3, 1.5, 1.6)

Export Processing Zones. In May and April, GIG conducted a field trip on implementing regulations on Export Processing Zones (EPZs) and other special zones in Quang Nam, Quang Ngai, Da Nang, and southern Vietnam. The field trips revealed that EPZ policies are inconsistent throughout the country. Additionally, Vietnam lacks a strategy for developing border and free trade zones, which has led to failed EPZs in areas bordering China, Laos, and Cambodia. Vietnam also lacks standardized free trade zones along the coastline to serve major ports. It is therefore necessary to amend existing regulations and design new rules and standards in accordance with upcoming FTAs, which will eliminate most tariff lines. Creating new regulations and rules, especially for free trade zones, will help Vietnam standardize policies to prevent circumvention of FTAs. (MOIT007; KRAs 1.3, 1.5)

COMPONENT 1: UPCOMING ACTIVITIES IN THE NEXT QUARTER

Based on progress made in this quarter, Q4 FY 2015 activities will build on progress to date in the following areas:

Resolution 19. GIG and CIEM will initiate a pilot program of implementing Resolution 19 at the local level. Implementation at the local level starts with several trainings to increase understanding of the Resolution for local leaders and key officials. The pilot program will focus on HCMC and several provinces. Creating a pilot program at the provincial level will equip HCMC and other provinces with the methodology and measures in World Bank Doing Business Indicators to improve their local business environments. (CIEM004; KRAs 1.1, 1.3, 1.5)

Commercial Law Review. GIG will support MOIT's efforts to review the 2005 Commercial Law. MOIT and GIG will conduct field visits to meet with local authorities and Foreign Invested Companies (FICs) to collect information, analyze foreign trade operations, and implementation of trading rights. GIG local consultants will also work

with MOIT and related agencies to develop analyses on issues that need to be revised, updated or changed for subsequent consideration by GVN to revise the law. (*MOIT008; KRAs 1.3, 1.5*)

Administrative Decisions Law. GIG will host workshops on the draft Administrative Decisions Law in HCMC and Hanoi to solicit in-depth technical comments and discuss the draft law with representatives of the drafting team, National Assembly (NA) delegations, social organizations, businesses, and other relevant GVN stakeholders. (*MOJ016; KRAs 1.1, 1.2, 1.3, 1.5, 3.1, 3.2*)

TPP. GIG will continue working with the NA to address the progress, opportunities, and challenges related to TPP. GIG will host technical workshops for NA deputies and businesses and host a business session and field visit. This activity aims to raise awareness and support for TPP, and assist with TPP approval and implementation. (*NA010; KRA 1.1*)

U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) Mission. GIG will host a CBP mission on compliance measurement with the Risk Management Board of GDVC, to include discussions on compliance measurement and compliant trader program requirements. (*TFA005 Phase II; KRA 1.1*)

Grant: Amcham Vietnam Trade Facilitation Alliance (VTFA). VTFA plans to commence regular consultations with the Provincial/Municipal customs administrations in HCMC, Dong Nai, and Binh Duong provinces in July as part of the first formal consultations conference, which will encompass approximately 83% of Vietnam's seaborne import and export trade. VTFA will continue consultations with GDVC on the draft GDVC-VTFA MOU and Action Plan Priorities and will continue to review, analyze, and support customs and trade policies, regulations, and laws, as necessary. (*GUC001*)

COMPONENT 2: IMPROVING ACCOUNTABILITY OF PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS

The transition from central planning to a market economy requires Vietnam to tackle core structural and institutional challenges. To strengthen the accountability of public institutions, Vietnam must modernize, strengthen, and develop public institutions such as the NA, State Audit Vietnam (SAV), and other ministries. GIG's efforts are helping Vietnam strengthen the NA's oversight role, promote sound public financial management and analysis with MPI and MOF, and support relevant ministries to increase transparency in the policy- and law-making process. GIG works in close coordination with GVN counterparts to improve accountability of public institutions while focusing on improving implementation, oversight, evaluation, and communications. In addition, GIG addresses key government priorities that require institutional coordination and development, including the combatting of wildlife trafficking.

COMPONENT 2: SIGNIFICANT IMPACTS IN Q3 FY2015

This quarter, GIG actively partnered with GVN counterparts to engage citizens in the policy process, encourage transparency, and improve the quality of policy information and analysis. Together, these efforts are changing the way Vietnam approaches policy- and law-making and will enhance the accountability of Vietnamese public institutions.

Specific significant impacts included:

Enhancing the NA's oversight capacity. GIG bolstered the oversight capacity of the NA through a comprehensive needs assessment and training program. The training program focused on report analysis and development to address the Department's role as a support unit for the NA in all oversight activities, including Q&A sessions.

Improving policy and legal transparency via updated information technology. GIG held the final demonstration of the Instant Support System (ISS) to the NA Library. The ISS will allow the library to provide necessary documents and information to deputies upon request. The June NA session was the first to use the ISS, giving deputies increased and quicker access to information, critical for law-making. The NA is preparing an assessment report for GIG to be delivered in the following quarter.

Enhancing GVN understanding of the economic impact of FTAs. GIG enhanced MOF's capacity to assess Free Trade Agreements through a training on conducting impact assessments. The National Institute of Finance (NIF), a research body within MOF, asked for GIG technical assistance, and GIG developed a training series to develop the necessary skills for the NIF to address information gaps. This quarter, GIG's international expert Inkyo Cheong trained MOF representatives on methodological approaches to analyzing state revenue impact, and introduced the tools necessary to conduct such analysis.

COMPONENT 2: KEY ACTIVITIES/EVENTS IN Q3 FY15

GIG worked with GVN counterparts and non-government partners to implement a wide range of activities, in alignment with GIG's Year 2 priority program objectives.

Improve policy development and execution through better oversight processes:

Needs Assessment and Training for NA Oversight Staff. In April, GIG completed a needs assessment for the staff of the NA Oversight Department, having reviewed the roles, responsibilities, and skills of all staff. This assessment informed recommendations for training and capacity building for the new department. In May, GIG held a training for NA Oversight Department staff on report analysis in Bac Giang. GIG designed and delivered an interactive training for the staff of this new department. (NA006; KRA 2.1)

Convened Issues Forum with NA Library to Promote Evidence-based policy-making: GIG convened the first NA Library Issues Forum in Hanoi on the topic of “Fluctuations in oil prices and implications for the state budget,” compiling research and providing international models for presentation at the event. These activities will provide better quality information and analysis to improve policy evaluation and implementation, as well as highlight the role of the NA Library in informing debate and responding to specific research needs. (NA011; KRAs 2.3, 3.2, 3.3)

Instant Support System (ISS). During the reporting period, GIG held the final demonstration of the ISS for the NA Library. The demonstration allowed for GIG and the Library to review and assess the new system before it launched. The ISS will allow the Library to provide necessary documents and information to deputies upon their request. GIG worked with local vendor Tinh Van Solutions to develop the software. (NA005; KRA 2.4)

The screenshot displays the HHT (Instant Support System) web interface. The header includes the system name 'HỆ THỐNG HỖ TRỢ TỨC THÌ' and a search bar. Below the header, there are tabs for 'ĐẶT CÂU HỎI', 'NỘI DUNG ĐÃ HỎI', 'CHƯA TRẢ LỜI', 'TRẢ LỜI CHỜ DUYỆT', and 'ĐÃ HOÀN THÀNH'. The main content area shows a list of questions with the following columns: Id, Nội dung, Trạng thái, Ngày hỏi, and Hạn trả lời. The questions are listed in descending order of their ID.

Id	Nội dung	Trạng thái	Ngày hỏi	Hạn trả lời
6	Số đối tượng bị đưa vào cơ sở cai nghiện bắt buộc từ khi Luật XLVPHC và ND 221/2013/ND-CP ...	Câu hỏi mới	9/4/2015 22:42	17/4/2015 22:39
7	Chuyên đề: Mô hình tổng công ty quản lý, sử dụng vốn nhà nước trong sx, kd của Singapore ...	Câu hỏi mới	9/4/2015 22:43	20/4/2015 22:39
9	Những khó khăn, bất cập? Nhu cầu xã hội đối với trẻ từ trên 6 tháng tuổi đến dưới 3 tháng ...	Câu hỏi mới	9/4/2015 22:46	17/4/2015 22:46
10	Những bất cập trong chương trình giáo dục PT, SGK hiện nay. Giải pháp cho thời gian tới ...	Câu hỏi mới	9/4/2015 22:47	11/4/2015 22:47
3	Một số bài viết về những bất cập trong việc thực hiện nội địa hóa trong ngành công nghiệp	Câu hỏi mới	9/4/2015 22:41	10/4/2015 22:39
5	Tình hình buôn lậu ở biên giới phía Bắc	Câu hỏi mới	9/4/2015 22:41	24/4/2015 22:39
4	Các bài báo có liên quan đến Làng VH Đồng Mô	Đã trả lời	9/4/2015 22:41	16/4/2015 22:39
1	Số liệu thống kê trẻ em từ trên 6 tháng tuổi đến 5 tuổi, từ trên 6 tháng tuổi đến dưới 3 tuổi?	Đã hoàn thành	9/4/2015 17:52	18/4/2015 17:52
31	Tôi muốn hỏi báo cáo tổng hợp tình hình kinh tế.	Đã hoàn thành	10/4/2015 9:50	13/4/2015 9:49
8	Số trẻ em được đến trường mầm non, đi nhà trẻ => Số còn lại chưa được đến trường mầm non, ...	Câu hỏi mới	9/4/2015 22:46	16/4/2015 22:46

At the bottom of the interface, there is a footer with contact information: 'Hotline: 08 999 888 | Email: thuvienquochoi@qh.gov.vn' and a system clock showing '4:45 PM 4/10/2015'.

Sample screen from the GIG-developed Instant Support System (ISS) first used by NA Deputies this quarter.

Facilitate broad-based growth through effective public financial management:

Trainings for MOF Staff to Enhance FTA Assessment Capacity. In June, GIG held the first in a series of MOF staff trainings to develop the capacity of MOF analysts in assessing the impact of free trade agreements. In December 2014, GIG had a workshop with the MOF to discuss gaps in information that would allow businesses and other stakeholders to benefit from Free Trade Agreements (FTAs). The National Institute of

“According to NIF Deputy Director Truong Ba Tuan, the USAID and NIF have been working together in the Vietnam Governance for Inclusive Growth (GIG) project to establish a set of assessment tools for FTA impacts on key sectors as well as state budget collection.”

Vietnam Net English, June 23, 2015

Finance (NIF), a research body within MOF, is mandated to provide this information and asked for GIG technical assistance. Based on the workshop, GIG worked with the NIF to develop a strategy responding to comments. This training series is part of that plan, as it involves the necessary skills for the NIF to address information gaps, such as methodological approaches to assessing how FTAs impact state revenue. The June session focused on the impacts trade agreements have on state revenue and was

conducted by international expert Inkyo Cheong. Participants and other stakeholders also participated in a roundtable discussion on June 19th. (*MOF002*; *KRAs 1.3, 2.4, 3.4*)

State Audit Law. Delivered international comparative report on laws governing State Audit Institutions to SAV and the NA CFBA. International STTA Robert Buchanan reviewed various SAI laws, focusing on specific topics in the current SAV Law revision discussions. (*SAV004*; *KRAs 1.1, 2.1, 2.3, 2.4*)

State Budget Law. GIG supported efforts to implement a new State Budget Law (SBL) through a combination of research, trainings, workshops, and a roundtable. In May, GIG delivered a law harmonization report on the SBL to the Committee for Finance and Budgetary Affairs (CFBA). The report was a unique comprehensive review of the impact the SBL would have on other laws, and therefore noting areas where amendments would be required. GIG also conducted training on the MPI’s on the Medium-Term Fiscal Framework (MTFF), a new mechanism to be included in SBL, for MPI’s Monetary and Finance Department. The training focused on educating MPI staff on the MTFF, including what their role is in creating it, and what guidance they need to provide to local agencies. Finally, GIG hosted a workshop on the MTFF with MPI to improve the decision-making process on capital expenses and other investments.

GIG also held a roundtable discussion on improving transparency in the state budgeting process, focusing on the challenges in sharing information between government bodies in both the preparation and execution of the state budget.. With the pending implementation of the new state budget law, GIG will help MPI review internal communication mechanisms between various levels of government. The lack of shared, clear information

has hindered public financial planning, and MPI views improving internal transparency as a step to full budgetary transparency. (NA007, MPI007; KRAs 1.1, 2.1, 2.3, 2.4)

Enhancing Procurement Capacity. In May, GIG held a series of technical consultations with GVN representatives and international procurement professional certification expert, Peter Trepte, to ensure effective policy implementation. In addition, GIG convened a half-day dialogue to help MPI formulate the procurement certification requirements for the draft circular, which will implement the new procurement requirements. In June, GIG initiated a needs assessment for the e-Procurement Division of the Public Procurement Agency (PPA) and conducted technical discussions. The aim of these consultations was to prepare MPI's procurement staff for the pending expansion of the use of the e-Procurement system, and to increase efficiency and transparency in public procurement. Finally, GIG completed a proposed draft of a new Circular establishing a regulatory framework for direct procurement (sole source) and shopping (limited purchase). (MPI002, MPI003, MPI005; KRAs 1.1, 1.2, 2.3, 2.4)

Enhance public policy legitimacy through participation, feedback, and media:

Law on Laws. During the reporting period, GIG worked with the Law Committee to enhance citizen participation via the Law on Laws. Prior to GIG's inputs, the draft stated that only VCCI (an official business association) and the Fatherland Front (an official political organization) could engage with policy makers on draft laws. The original draft excluded CSOs (non-governmental organizations, associations and unions, private research institutes, private think tanks, etc.). By approaching the NA Committee for Legal Affairs to advocate for the inclusion of CSOs in the policy-making process, GIG facilitated a closer dialogue between the NA and these agencies and professionals via a series of workshops. As a result of GIG's engagement, the law drafters amended the original draft, adding "other organizations and individuals" to the Article 6 (Participation in the development of legal documents) in final law. As a result, the final Law on Laws, ratified on June 22, 2015, now includes a broader spectrum of CSOs.

Support to the NA Information Department. In May, GIG and the Public Outreach team conducted communications capacity building and journalism training in collaboration with the NA Information Department. Training was provided in three key areas: Communications capacity building for NA Information Officers to enhance the quality of public information; Journalism training for media working on the National Assembly to improve legislative reporting and strengthen relations between NA Information



The NA Information Department and GIG provide communications capacity building and journalism training.

Department and media; and TV broadcast training to improve the quality of broadcasting on public policy making. Training sessions focused on practical communications skills for Information Officers, social media opportunities for the NA, media management, media ethics for journalists, and crisis management. GIG and the Public Outreach team additionally provided training in collaboration with the Vietnam Journalists' Association (VJA) for senior broadcast journalists on reporting on the National Assembly,

and improved broadcasting techniques. This activity was designed to promote the transparency of NA activities, enhance media relations between the NA and the media, and improve the quality of reporting by mass media on the policy making process. (NA004; KRA 2.5)



The NA Information Department and GIG provide communications capacity building and journalism training.

COMPONENT 2: UPCOMING ACTIVITIES IN THE NEXT QUARTER

Based on progress made in this quarter, Q4 FY 2015 activities will emphasize:

State Budget Law. With the new law in place, GIG will support the CFBA in its role of providing budgetary analysis and oversight. Support will include skills training and substantive review of guiding regulations. In addition, GIG will continue working with MPI through critical consultations on public investment decision making in light of the new law. (NA009, MPI 006; KRAs 1.2, 2.1, 2.3, 2.4)

Instant Support System. Following the NA's initial use of the ISS during the reporting period, NA will send GIG their assessment of the program. GIG will discuss this feedback and related plans in the next QPR.

MOF Trainings to Enhance Assessment Capacity. GIG will continue to develop the capacity of MOF analysts in assessing the impact of free trade agreements via a series of trainings. Trainings will focus on the analysis and development of economic models for MOF staff, including hands-on practical exercises with world-renowned modeling programs. In addition, GIG will work with international economist Robert Rogowsky to provide a training session designed to further the understanding of MOF staff on trade agreement analysis. This session will focus on conducting impact assessments for specific economic sectors, based on priority sectors as identified by the MOF and business associations. (MOF002; KRAs 1.3, 2.4, 3.4; Free Trade Agreement-related)

Workshop on Improvement of Q&A Sessions. Convene a workshop with the National Assembly Oversight Department in Danang to review proposed revisions to the Law on Oversight and their implications for Q&A sessions, held by NA deputies overseeing government activities. (NA006; KRA 2.1)

Procurement Reform. GIG will conclude technical consultations with the PPA on certification for procurement professionals. GIG and MPI will also conduct a series of discussions on international experiences regarding public procurement in TPP. By working with international consultant Jean Grier, who has significant experience on procurement commitments in trade agreements, GIG will provide international lessons on critical issues as identified by MPI. The consultations will lead to the development of an implementation roadmap once TPP is passed. In addition, Peter Trepte will return to present his proposed framework for procurement professional certification, and offer observations on MPI's current approach. GIG will also train staff of the e-Procurement Division and related agencies on e-procurement practices and standards, including recommended processes. Finally, GIG will continue support to the development of regulations implementing the Public Procurement Law. As part of this portfolio, GIG will initiate work with the MOF in order to harmonize procurement efforts between the two Ministries. (MPI002, MPI003, MPI004, MPI005; KRAs 1.2, 2.3 ADD MPI002, MPI004, and MPI00, TPP-related)

Improve the Enforcement of Laws and Decisions: Working with the MOJ, GIG will initiate a review of Decree 59 and the current mechanisms for monitoring the implementation of laws, with an aim to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of these efforts. This review will be paired with an assessment of delays in the completion and release of implementing regulations. Finally, GIG will initiate a comprehensive review of how policymakers prepare for and respond to disputes from foreign investors. (MOJ023, MOJ024, MOJ027; KRAs 2.3, 2.4, 3.2)

Combatting Wildlife Trafficking: GIG will launch efforts to combat the trafficking of wildlife in cooperation with GDVC. GIG's efforts will hopefully involve relevant law enforcement and oversight bodies to bolster the government's ability to address this national priority.

COMPONENT 3: IMPROVING INCLUSION AND EQUALITY FOR MARGINALIZED GROUPS

GIG integrates issues facing women, ethnic minorities, and other traditionally disadvantaged groups into program activities and results. Through these efforts, GIG helps institutionalize active roles for CSOs, private associations, and citizen groups into policy making and governance in Vietnam.

COMPONENT 3: SIGNIFICANT IMPACTS IN Q3 FY 2015

This quarter, GIG worked with GVN counterparts, CSOs, and citizen groups to improve inclusion by integrating equality and GESI principles into numerous laws.

Specific impacts include:

Increased active involvement of historically marginalized groups – CSOs, women, LGBT, ethnic minorities, businesses, etc. – in the law making process. GIG promoted dialogue between the GVN and traditionally disadvantaged groups in public consultation on the Civil Code. GIG leveraged its policy advocacy role by proactively supporting this public consultation process and incorporating such as transgender individuals, CSOs, academia, ministries, private sector and professional medical doctors in the law-making process.

Enhanced quality of laws to recognize gender and social inclusion and protect the rights of vulnerable groups. GIG organized multiple activities to enhance Vietnam's legal protection of historically disadvantaged groups. For example, GIG recommendations that CSOs be specifically referenced in the law were included in Article 6 of the final Law on Laws, which was passed by the NA on June 22, 2015. The new law sets the composition of agencies to provide feedback on draft laws and—for the first time—includes social organizations and individuals (the previous law only included the GVN-sponsored Fatherland Front and VCCI organizations). GIG recommendations were also incorporated in the new SBL, passed in June 2015, which now includes principles of gender and social equality (Article 8 - Principles for State Budget Management) and gender budgeting provisions (Article 41 on Requirements for Annual Budget Planning).

COMPONENT 3: KEY ACTIVITIES/EVENTS IN Q3 FY 2015

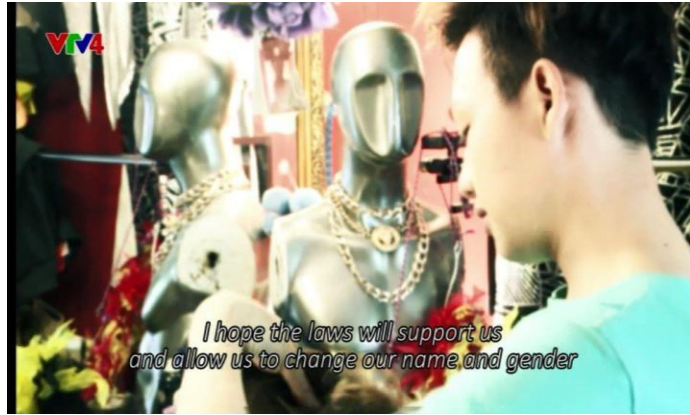
GI worked with GVN counterparts and non-government partners to implement a wide range of activities, in alignment with GIG's Year 2 priority program objectives.

Mainstream inclusion into law-making and governance processes:

Draft Civil Code. During the reporting period, GIG held several events to encourage the mainstreaming of inclusion into the Civil Code. In April, GIG held a consultative workshop in Hanoi on health provisions in the draft Civil Code. This workshop was jointly organized by MOJ and MOH with the participation of doctors from hospitals in Hanoi, Ho Chi Minh City, Khanh Hoa, Ha Tinh and Thanh Hoa, other government agencies, CSO representatives, and transgender persons. The workshop focused on finalizing recommendations for the Civil Code Drafting Committee on five critical articles: loss of civil conduct capacity (27); rights to declaration and registration of birth and death (34); rights and safety of life, health, and body (37); rights to donate and receive tissues and body parts (39), and; rights to gender reassignment (40). This event marked the first time two vice ministers (MOJ and MOH) have jointly chaired a workshop and demonstrated a successful working partnership between ministries. (MOJ019; KRAs 1.1, 1.3, 1.5, 3.1, 3.2)

GIG also held technical working sessions on Civil Code articles. These workshops concluded an ongoing series of technical assistance to the Civil Code drafting committee. Since January 2015, GIG has worked with MOJ on a variety of Civil Code activities to integrate public opinion into the law-making process and seek recommendations for the revised Civil Code (per the Prime Minister's Decision 01/QD-TTg). This marks the first time that a government ministry has expanded the law-making process to social groups, making the process transparent, participatory and receptive. This creates a model of participatory law-making that benefits a broader cross-section of society, especially the most vulnerable groups and their representing agencies by including them in the law making process (MOJ019; KRAs 1.1, 1.3, 1.5, 3.1, 3.2)

The draft Civil Code was submitted to the NA in May and is under review. GIG expects it will be approved in October 2015, during the autumn session. GIG is currently tracking activities, especially transgender issues. Once the Civil Code passes, GIG plans to cooperate with the MOJ, disseminating legal information to the public and other target groups (e.g., academia, vulnerable groups, SMEs/private sector, and researchers, etc.)



A transgendered individual discusses the impact of laws on transgendered people in a GIG-produced TV special on the Civil Code.

“This event is so significant. Women like us do not know what kind of legal papers there are. So when the family breaks, some often have nothing. Women should know these kind of (legal) paper (the LURC). We should have this right.”

- Mrs. Bui Thi Van, a Muong ethnic minority, Hoa Binh

MOJ Law on Marriage and Family. In June, GIG held a training workshop in Hanoi for 112 community leaders, village heads, judges and staff of DOJs (of whom 63 were females) from throughout Vietnam on the application of customs and traditions in solving ethnic minorities’ marriage and family disputes. The training introduced new elements of the Law, details on Decision 126/2014/NDCP, and ways to limit the customs that should be applied to relevant disputes. Mr. Nguyen Hong Hai, Vice Head of the MOJ’s Department of Civil Economic Legislation, chaired the training.

Guest speakers included: Mrs. Ngo Thi Huong and Nguyen Thi Lan, law lecturers from the Hanoi Law University, Mr. Vu Ba Thong from the Committee for Ethnic Minority Affairs (CEMA), and anthropologist Mr. Nguyen Truong Giang from the Hanoi National University. The speakers and participants discussed principles for the application of customs in marriage and family disputes and how to ensure legal processes are equitable, legally binding, and reflect the will of the ethnic minority groups. (*MOJ021; KRA 3.1*)

Address policy and legal barriers to equal development for marginalized groups:

Grant: CCRD Land Law Campaign. The 2003 Land Law was a critical development in emphasizing gender equality and assuring women's legal ownership right to land use. Unfortunately, many Vietnamese women are still left behind with their names are excluded from Land Use Right Certificates LURCs. Without registering on the LURC, a Vietnamese woman has no legal access to land, compromising her ability to access to credit, own assets, earn a living, and raise a family. This problem is largely due to a lack of legal awareness and education – many communities do not know the prevailing laws and instead default to traditional practices whereby only men's names are listed, effectively denying women any rights to land.

In April, GIG grantee, The Center for Rural Communities Research and Development (CCRD), held two training workshops for communicators of women's access to land rights campaign in the Tan



The local audience enjoys the CCRD-sponsored play on women's land rights issues.



Local residents take part in the CCRD-sponsored play on women's land rights issues.

Lac District, Hoa Binh Province. After completing the training, workshop participants designed and carried out local communication activities related to the campaign. These activities aimed to raise awareness and promote behavioral changes of target populations regarding women's land rights by promoting women's names on the LURC. During the communication campaign, a series of activities including contests on women's land rights and LURCs were held in six communes in late April and early May 2015.

"The training contents are very reasonable. I did not know that my wife should have her names on the LURC. I will plan to add her name to the family's LURC"

- Training participant

Contests were intended to raise awareness and encourage behavior change in women's rights. Approximately 1,000 total attended the events, where they took a quiz on the Land Law and women's land rights issues and watched plays acted by local ethnic people.



A representative of ethnic minority populations in the Central Highlands discusses the Law on Marriage and Family and a training workshop sponsored by GIG.

CCRD had planned to begin Land Law contests on public-awareness building in Chuong My and Phu Cuong communes in Tan Lac district, and Chi Dao and Dinh Cu Communes, Lac Son district, Hoa Binh province in late May. However, on May 19th, the PMU notified GIG that this activity must be discussed further due to the fact that it was not clear in the government work plan to GIG. Therefore, the CCRD grant and related activities were postponed. (*GUC301*)

Legal Access. During the reporting period, GIG and the MOJ Department of Legal Education and Dissemination (DLED) organized field assessments throughout Vietnam on the feasibility of implementing Decision 09/2013/QĐ-TTg (issuance of standards and indicators to measure citizens' access to legal services and information at local levels). These events helped DLED develop a proposal to advise the Prime Minister on how to revise the Decision and improve implementation to give citizens in rural areas access to legal information and services. Participants identified key issues with Decision 09, namely that it was implemented without any guidelines, making it difficult to implement at the local level. Additionally, participants noted certain indicators measuring access to legal information and services are unrealistic, while others are duplicative. Finally, participants indicated the Decision only measures performance of related local government agencies at communal level, not the satisfaction levels of the local people. MOJ will work on the assessment report and preliminary recommendations to share in a planned workshop next quarter. (*MOJ028; KRAs 3.1, 3.2*)

Increase the exercise of civil rights through awareness and accountability:

Gender Equality and Social Inclusion (GESI): Building on activities in previous quarters, GIG incorporated GESI principles into Regulatory Impact Assessment (RIA) training for

the NA and university lecturers. In early May, GIG cooperated on training for the NA Oversight Department staff on report analysis in Bac Giang. GIG delivered a presentation on inclusive growth and gender equality, including: 1) two videos on social inclusion and gender equality; 2) Gender Equality and Social Inclusion (GESI) framework for monitoring of law implementation and legal reviewing; and 3) information analysis tools to formulate sound and inclusive recommendations. This presentation provided an overview of inclusion and gender equality for oversight reporting with which the participants can make use of, and refer to, while analyzing information and preparing for reports.

Later in May, GIG cooperated on RIA training for university lecturers in Hanoi and Vinh Phuc. GIG worked with local consultant Mrs. Nguyen Thi Dieu Hong to mainstream GESI into the RIA training process and curriculum. These efforts are making the RIA more inclusive and ensure that issues relevant to the most vulnerable groups are included as key items in the RIA agenda. (NA006, CIEM005; KRAs 1.2, 1.3, 2.1)

Pursue inclusive business approaches among GVN, business, and civil society:

Business Leadership and Management in the Context of FTAs. GIG worked with the Vietnam Association for Women Entrepreneurs (VAWE) and Hanoi Association for Women Entrepreneurs (HNEW) to apprise women-run and women-owned businesses of FTA developments, and the impacts these developments would have on business operations. On March 27, GIG held a symposium in HCMC on *Business Leadership and Management in the Context of FTAs*. The event included 120 representatives from businesses managers and owners, and associations and produced substantive dialogue, engagement, and action plans for preparing for FTA engagements.

Building on the success of the symposium, GIG, VAWE and HNEW planned to organize a second symposium on June 23, 2015 for the women-run and women owned businesses in the central provinces. To prepare for this, GIG, VAWE and HNEW surveyed the target women businesses to determine key concerns for women businesses. The survey indicated primary concerns including tax and customs issues, accounting, and corporate governance and experiences to overcome TBTs. However, prior to this event, the PMU suspended all activities that were not listed in the government work plan to GIG, including HNEW activities. (HNEW002, KRAs 3.3, 3.4)

Developing capacity and tools for the Vietnam Women Entrepreneurs Council (VWEC) to manage members. GIG worked with VWEC to develop an improved system for managing its membership. VWEC now uses an outdated software that is difficult to use, prone to errors, and is limited to Word files. GIG and VWEC discussed options for a more efficient software that could be used by both VWEC and VCCI to better manage their memberships. GIG hopes to help VWEC develop a survey to assess its members' needs and support with training VWEC staff on surveying methodology, analyzing data and use data for advocacy purposes. This activity is currently suspended but, if started

again in the future, could be utilized to map out SMEs for developing supply chains. (VWEC002; KRAs 3.2, 3.3, 3.4)

Develop research on ethnic minority groups to support policy proposals:

Research Paper: Access to Information for Ethnic Minority Groups. In April 2015, DEPOCEN submitted their first research on ethnic minority access to information in Vietnam. This desk review has formed the basis of DEPOCEN's work plan, and field work will commence in August 2015 in five research areas. In June, GIG met with Committee for Ethnic Minorities (CEM) to discuss the draft Law on Ethnic Minorities. (NA015 and KRA 3.3)

COMPONENT 3: UPCOMING ACTIVITIES IN THE NEXT QUARTER

Based on progress made in this quarter, Q4 FY 2015 activities will emphasize:

Civil Code. GIG expects the Civil Code to be approved in October 2015. GIG will continue tracking activities, especially transgender issues. Once the Civil Code passes, GIG plans to support MOJ with disseminating legal information to the public and other target groups (e.g., SMEs). (MOJ019; KRAs 1.1, 1.3, 1.5, 3.1, 3.2)

Legal Access. GIG hopes to host a workshop to review MOJ's assessment of *the* feasibility of implementing Decision 09/2013/QĐ-TTg (issuance of standards and indicators to measure citizens' access to legal services and information at local levels). (MOJ028; KRAs 3.1, 3.2)

Gender Mainstreaming. GIG will finalize guidelines on gender mainstreaming to update MOJ's Circular 17/2014/TT-BTP into a legal normative document. GIG will also work with MOJ on three decrees: 1) Decree 70/2008/NĐ-CP, detailing the stipulation of implementation some articles of Law on Gender Equality; 2) Decree 48/2009/NĐ-CP, on the stipulation of measures to ensure gender equality under several articles of Law on Gender Equality; and 3) Decree 55/2009/NĐ-CP, on sanctions for administrative infringement of gender equality. (MOJ014; KRAs 3.1, 3.2, 3.3)

Legal Access. GIG will continue to help the MOJ plan to improve implementation of Decision 09 on Access to Legal Information and Services at the community level. (MOJ028; KRAs 3.1, 3.2)

Draft Law on Issuance of Administrative Decisions. GIG will facilitate a workshop on the draft Law on Issuance of Administrative Decisions, to advocate for comprehensible, fair, transparent, and feasible administrative decisions. (MOJ016; KRAs 1.1, 1.2, 1.3, 1.5)

Resolution 19 Pilot Program. GIG will work with the HCMC People's Committee to discuss potential approaches for implementing a Resolution 19 pilot program in HCMC.

The pilot program would include capacity building for SMEs regarding the effective application of revised tax and customs systems. (*CIEM004; KRAs 1.1, 1.3, 1.5*)

State Budget Law 2015. GIG will host a workshop in Hanoi for approximately 100 government officials and gender experts to gain input from related government agencies, mass organizations, gender experts, provinces, social organizations, etc. on gender budgeting guidance. The workshop will focus on finalizing guidance on gender budget allocation. This will ensure effective implementation of gender based budgeting, as stipulated in Article 41 of the SBL. At GIG's workshop during the previous quarter, CFBA Deputy Mr. Dinh Van Nha described gender equality as the "foundation to building budget estimates and defining spending demands." The upcoming workshop will address Mr. Nha's commitment to gender budgeting. (*NA022; KRAs 3.1, 3.2, 3.3*)

MOF Trainings to Enhance Assessment Capacity. GIG will conduct trainings to develop the capacity of MOF's analysts, researchers and officials in assessing the impact of free trade agreements. (*MOF002; KRAs 1.2, 2.4, 3.4*)

Access to Information for Ethnic Minority Groups. DEPOCEN will continue to implement this research project. The final report is due in August 2015. Upon completion, GIG will provide the report to CEM's drafting committee to assist in the development of the draft Law on Ethnic Minorities. (*NA015; KRA 3.3*)

Inclusive Business: Next quarter, GIG plans to document lessons learned and success factors in stabilizing state revenue through an efficient tax system. GIG will leverage synergies with the tax indicator requirements in Resolution 19/2015. (*CIEM004, MOF003; KRAs 1.1, 1.3, 1.5*)

MOJ Law on Marriage and Family. GIG will create a handbook to guide effective implementation of Articles 2-6 of Decision 126. This will be the first detailed guideline for implementing Decree 126/2014 on the application of custom in marriage and family. (*MOJ021; KRA 3.1*)

IMPLEMENTATION OPPORTUNITIES & CHALLENGES IN Q3 FY 2015

Opportunities

20th Anniversary of U.S.-Vietnam Relations. The 20th Anniversary of the normalization of Vietnam-U.S. diplomatic relations in 2015 offers opportunities for GIG to contribute to deepening the U.S.-Vietnam partnership.

Strong Partnerships. Throughout Years 1 and 2, GIG has built strong partnerships with government counterparts, allowing the program to engage with all counterparts from designing, modifying, and identifying consultancies to implementing and reporting program activities.

Resolution 19. Vietnam continues efforts to improve the policy and legal framework in accordance with the 2013 Constitution, which highlights civil and citizen rights. The GVN has indicated a strong interest in regulatory and administrative procedure reforms, which will reduce compliance costs and corruption. The GVN's commitment to implementing Resolution 19 presents an opportunity for Vietnam's business environment and trade reforms. Recently, the Prime Minister demonstrated his support for Resolution 19, and relevant GVN ministries have issued implementation guidance, building momentum for meaningful reform.

Customs. GIG has also received strong commitments from GDVC to simplify customs procedures and modernize customs operation to facilitate trade. In cooperation with GDVC, GIG will support efforts to combat wildlife trafficking. Wildlife trafficking has received attention thanks to high profile media attention and a growing advocacy community.

Civil Code. MOJ launched the public consultation process for the draft revised Civil Code, which created an entry point for GIG to support the MOJ Civil-Economic Law Department and the Drafting Committee to consult and obtain inputs from a diversified social group including academia, private sector, civil society organizations, political agencies, research institutes, ministries, NA, provincial DOJs, and potentially others. MOJ received hundreds of Civil Code inputs through a series of GIG consultations. Civil Code feedback came from a wide variety of actors: provincial authorities, political organizations, social organizations, researchers, university professors, legal staff of business associations, human rights activists, and those representing disabled and LGBT communities. MOJ has already incorporated more than 60 recommendations and is still considering adding new provisions. This process represents the first time that law-making took place with the open participation of almost all social groups. The committed, open, and professional leadership of MOJ personnel made it possible for hundreds of CSOs to be part of the consultation process for the first time, a model for future engagement with SMEs.

Challenges

The GIG program continues to coordinate with the PMU to forge a path that will enable GIG to collaborate with both government and non-government partners in Vietnam. Key challenges during the quarter include:

Establishing New Partnerships with Government Entities:

- In the previous quarter, the GIG program explored a potential partnership with CIRD of MOLISA to support industrial relations activities, in part to support the Government of Vietnam in meeting upcoming FTA commitments. MOLISA submitted a request to the PMU Steering Committee to partner with GIG under the ad-hoc mechanism in May 2015. GIG had not received a response by the end of the quarter. MOLISA has indicated the delay in establishing this partnership may result in cancellation of the proposed activity.
- In April 2015 the Judicial Committee of the National Assembly expressed a strong interest in working with GIG to develop the capacity of Committees to better oversee government activities. The Judicial Committee sent a request to the PMU on April 21, 2015. GIG had not received a response by the end of the quarter.

Implementing Activities Not in the GVN Year Two Work Plan:

- In June 2015 GIG postponed planned women entrepreneurship activities (HNEW002 and VWEC002) in response to a request from the PMU, citing that the activities were not in the approved work plan. The activities did not appear in the GVN work plan as they were in collaboration with non-government entities (HNEW and VWEC). This misunderstanding will be addressed in the next work plan.
- In May 2015, GIG postponed legislative reporting training for journalists (NA004) in response to a request from the PMU, citing that the activity was not in the approved work plan. This activity did not appear in the GVN work plan as it was in collaboration with a non-government entity (the Vietnam Journalism Association). This misunderstanding will be addressed in the next work plan.

Grants:

- Following the release of the USAID GIG Annual Program Statement (APS) No. 1 in December 10, 2014, which defines the GIG grants program, GIG in this reporting period continued to review and develop potential applications from Vietnamese social organizations for grant awards. In May 2015, however, GIG postponed the development of these potential APS grants, following a request from the PMU.

- GIG continued to implement a grant activity with CCRD (GUC301) from the previous quarter (see page 26). Following a request from the PMU on May 19, 2015, GIG instructed CCRD to postpone planned field activities. And GIG has continued to implement a grant activity with the American Chamber of Commerce (AmCham) Ho Chi Minh City, with is cooperating with VCCI to implement the new Vietnam Trade Facilitation Alliance to support implementation of the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) and Trade Facilitation Agreement (TFA).

SECTION II: PROGRAM MANAGEMENT

COORDINATION WITH GVN COUNTERPARTS AND THE PMU

GIG engages with its six GVN counterparts through a centralized Project Management Unit (PMU), appointed by the Minister of MOJ. The PMU coordinates outgoing requests, with the Deputy Director General of the MOJ International Cooperation Department, Mr. Nguyễn Hữu Huyền serving as GIG's primary point of contact. GIG's outgoing Deputy Program Director, Pham Thi Hoai Giang, is responsible for coordinating with the PMU.

The MOJ chairs the PMU Program Steering Committee, an entity established to provide high-level guidance and input to the program with USAID involvement. The GIG Program Director oversees this process, and serves to provide technical input, programmatic direction, and strategic guidance for GIG activities and partner stakeholders.

During Q3 FY 2015, GIG worked with the PMU on all GIG program activities.

CONTRACT DELIVERABLES

Contract deliverables submitted to USAID during the reporting period include:

- Quarterly Performance Report # 5 (April to June 2015)
- 13 Weekly Bullets
- 15 Media Briefings
- Technical deliverables for short-term consultants

SECTION III: ANNEXES

The annexes of this report provide a summary of implementation considerations and budget expenditures through June 30, 2015. These annexes are as follows:

- Annex 1: DTA activity progress report
- Annex 2: Indicator data summary tab

Annex 1: DTA Activity Progress Report

COMPONENT 1: IMPROVING LEGAL AND REGULATORY FRAMEWORKS THROUGH DYNAMIC, INCLUSIVE POLICY-MAKING PROCESS					
Activity Number	KRA	Planned activities for Year 2	Timeframe	Status Q3	Notes Q3
	1.1. High-quality laws and regulations developed				
MOJ019	1.1	Support development of the 2005 Civil Code (amended), by continuing support for the regulatory impact assessment (RIA).	Oct 2014-March 2015	Completed	A workshop on health provisions and other workshops to finalize the legal texts in the revised Civil Code were organized. The position paper from academia and legal experts was completed. The draft revised Civil Code integrating project recommendations was submitted to NA for review and debate in May 2015. The final report to document the inputs from all stakeholders in the process of revising the Civil Code is being finalized to submit to GIG.
MOJ026	1.1	Review and develop options for legal system improvement to implement TPP commitments, per agreed need and priorities.	Oct-Dec 2014	Not yet started	
MOJ031	1.1	Improve the LND drafting capacity of legal officers of ministries, NA, sector organizations, and localities.	Jan-June 2015	In progress	Finalized the outline of the manual on LND drafting skills. The manual is expected to be completed next quarter.
MOJ013	1.1	Support the management and facilitation of international cooperation activities in the legal sector through technical assistance in (i) implementation of the decree on cooperation in legal sector; (ii) possible support of a study mission to the US on experience in implementation of the Constitution.	TBD	Not yet started	
MOJ018	1.1	Study and compile guidelines for developing provisions on administrative procedures in draft LNDs	Oct 2014-Dec 2015	In progress	No further progress this quarter.
	1.1	Develop a set of standardized administrative procedures and tools for rationalization of administrative procedures for government of	Oct 2014-Dec 2015	In progress	See code MOJ034.

		various levels, focusing on selected priority areas such as tax, customs, et al.			
MOJ016	1.1	Support development of the Law on Making Administrative Decisions. Support a study of international experiences related to drafting the Law on Making Administrative Decisions.	Oct 2014- Sept 2015	In progress	The draft LAD and supporting reports were published for public comments.
MOJ004	1.1	Support organization of a workshop to solicit comments on the draft Decree on Commercial Mediation.	Oct-Dec 2014		
TFA002	1.1	Improve and promulgate harmonized system explanatory notes.	Oct-Dec 2014		
TFA001	1.1	Implement commitments under the WTO TFA: risk management, national single window, CBP, strategic administration of the customs modernization plan, performance indicators, compliance measurement and assessment, experience sharing, Vietnamization, application of the EClick software, et al.	Oct 2014- Sep 2015		
TFA004	1.1	Support for Implementation of WTO Agreement on Trade Facilitation (TFA): (i) support the implementation of regulations; (ii) build capacity for Customs and related agencies; (iii) operationalize TFA partnership with the private sector; (iv) work with Customs, CIEM and businesses on simplification of "specialized management" regime; (v) support Risk Management Board of Vietnam Customs to develop a compliance measurement system, compliant traders program, and risk management framework; and (vi) develop a comprehensive customs performance indicators systems, including conducting survey on customers' satisfaction towards VN customs performance/activities.	Jan-June 2015	In progress	Supported customs & relevant stakeholders: (i) Amend of Law on import-export duties, (ii) Revise of Circular 126/2014/TT-BTC, (iii) Review legal documents on specialized management of import-export goods to develop proposal to the Government on simplification of customs procedures, (iv) Categorize B&C commitments of Vietnam under the WTO TFA, (v) Develop National Committee on Trade Facilitation (NTFC) under the WTO TFA, (vi) Continue the customs performance survey 2015 (by June 2015, received 2900 responses of businesses).
TFA003	1.1	Build capacity and support implementation for combatting wildlife trafficking (CWT).	Apr-Dec 2015		See CWT001

MOF003	1.1	Review and systematize the list of current tax-related administrative procedures, including annual statistics; propose options for simplification. Develop a process for Administrative Procedure Control.	Oct 2014-Dec 2015	In progress	The consultants are working on the systemization of tax regulations. Preparing for review and simplification of tax invoices and receipts.
MOIT010	1.1	Conduct a status assessment for the purpose of developing National Technical Regulations on food safety assurance conditions applicable to food production, storing, and trading facilities under MOIT's management authority.	July-Sept 2015	Not yet started	
MOIT011	1.1	Conduct a status assessment for the development of a legal document stipulating the conditions for and method of managing food trading at markets and supermarkets.	July-Sept 2015	Not yet started	
MOIT012	1.1	Support implementation of the Bali Package TFA provisions in coordination with Customs and other agencies. Support may include reviewing regulations to facilitate trade, and issuing e-documents to enhance understanding of the Bali package.	Oct 2014-March 2015	Not yet started	
MOIT013	1.1	Support preparation for implementation of the TPP/FTA in selected technical areas agreed by GVN and USG, such as labor, environment, customs, et al.	Oct 2014-Sept 2015	Preparing	Pending TPP.
MOIT003	1.1	Review and analyze the LND system concerning rules of origin, to recommend revisions and amendments, or issue new LNDs, for self-certification of goods origin in the ASEAN region.	Oct-Dec 2014	In progress	Circular on Self Certification of Origin under ASEAN scheme is being drafted.
CIEM003	1.1	Study and assess the implementation of regulations and procedures relating to the Doing Business Indicators (WB) and propose solutions to streamline procedures and reduce time and costs, in order to improve the business environment and national competitiveness. In 2015, focus on 3 indicators: (i) registering property; (ii) protecting investors; and (iii) enforcing contracts. Activities may include study reports, one-day technical workshops, field trips, or national conference.	Oct 2014-Sept 2015	Completed	

CIEM004	1.1	Sum up the implementation of reforms under "Ease of Doing Business Indicators (EoDB) in Vietnam for the 2011-2015 period," to develop recommendations on how to improve the business environment and enhance national competitiveness. Activities may include study reports, technical workshops, field trips, or national conference.	Oct 2014- Sept 2015	In progress	Provide inputs and comments to CIEM, in working with business, customs and other relevant stakeholders, to develop and complete the quarterly report on implementation of Resolution 19/2015, with regards to specialized management of import-export goods (WB DB TAB indicator). This quarterly report was submitted to the Prime Minister. Supported WB DB team to work with logistics companies & enterprises to instruct them to fill in the Trading Across Borders questionnaire. Preparing for pilot implementation at local level (HCMC and some selected provinces) and further implementation at central level.
MOJ034	1.1	Support standardization of administrative procedures, through the finalization of the manual of drafting AP regulations, development of methodology and tools for APs standardizing, and update of standardized APs on the online national database.	March-Dec 2015	In progress	A series of trainings on standardizing the AP using online system were delivered. An online national database will be launched later in the year.
1.2. Policy development processes improved					
MOJ030	1.2	Develop Operational Guidelines for RIA.	Oct 2014- March 2015	Not yet started	
MOJ017	1.2	Organize a Workshop to finalize draft Regulations on Decentralization and Appointment of the Duty to manage civil servants and employees in various State management entities under MOJ.	Oct-Dec 2014	Not yet started	
MOIT005	1.2	Support capacity building of understanding of legal issues for legal officers to develop and implement FTAs in selected legal and institutional areas.	Jan-Apr 2015	Not yet started	
MOIT007	1.2	Study the policies for trade, import, and export in economic zones, special trade zones, and export-processing zones (EPZs). Study foreign experiences in the development of such policies, to identify ways to improve the legal framework for such zones.	Oct 2014- Sept 2015	In progress	Field trips to some provinces were conducted. The report on trade policies with regard to EPZs is being drafted.

MOIT014	1.2	Review regulations and practices in certification of origin and prepare Vietnam for implementation of a self-certification regime anticipated in FTAs such as TPP. Activities may include survey of current practices, training, technical or management advice, etc.	Oct 2014-June 2015	Completed	
CIEM005	1.2	Support training events on RIA. Steps may include developing a RIA manual and delivering related trainings.	Jan-Sept 2015	in progress	Training courses for implementing RIA were delivered in Hanoi and Vinh Phuc in May 2015 and in HCMC and Can Tho in June 2015, with the co-organization of GIG, CIEM, and APD. A presentation on gender mainstreaming and inclusive growth in RIA process was delivered.
MPI008	1.2	Support capacity development for the International Public Procurement Center.	Oct-Dec 2014	Not yet started	
MPI009	1.2	Support capacity development for the Center for Research and Policy Consultation.	Oct 2014-March 2015	In progress	No further progress this quarter.
NA010	1.2	Organize a Technical Conference on FTAs in the central region of Vietnam.	Jan-March 2015	In progress	DTA was finalized. The Technical Conference on FTAs in the central region will be organized in next quarter.
1.3 Information systems and evidence-based analysis for policymaking improved					
MOIT008	1.3	Review and assess 10 years' implementation experience of the 2005 Commercial Law (Part 1).	Apr-June 2015	In progress	Field trips to selected provinces in the North and South were conducted.
MOIT009	1.3	Review and assess the business conditions applicable to conditional business sectors to support the implementation of the revised Investment Law and implementation of the TFA with regard to import/export licensing in these sectors.	Apr-June 2015	In progress	To combine with MOIT008 - see above.
MOIT002	1.3	Review and propose changes to environmental protection rules for the manufacturing sector.	Oct-Dec 2014		

MOIT004	1.3	Review and recommend ideas and a roadmap for developing and issuing MOIT technical regulations (QCVN) by 2020 for conformity of certification and examination of quality of Group II commodities in production and importation.	Oct-Dec 2014		
NA008	1.3	Organize 6 technical workshops on intellectual property, government procurement, trade facilitation, origins of goods, labor, environment, and other topics, for the publication of technical briefing materials on FTAs for NA deputies to perform ratification and implementation of FTAs	Oct 2014-March 2015	Preparing	DTA is being drafted.
STAM001	1.3	TBT Support to STAMEQ	Oct 2014-Sept 2015	In progress	The Electronic Notification System (ENS) is being developed and expected to be launched next quarter.
1.4. Transparency of laws and regulations improved					
MOJ011	1.4	Conduct professional and operational dialogues/seminars on a quarterly basis to improve knowledge and skills of codification officers, and to address difficulties in codification activities.	Oct 2014-Dec 2015	In progress	A seminar on implementation of codification in the first quarter of 2015 was organized in April 2015.
MOIT006	1.4	Support systemization of the legal norm system in the trade and industry sector.	Oct 2014-Sept 2015	Preparing	DTA is being drafted.
1.5. Public consultation and stakeholder engagement mechanisms strengthened					
MOF004	1.5	Raise awareness among drafters of LNDs in the public finance sector on the importance of public consultation, through training for officers of MOF units, and through developing tools to enable better public participation in formulation of laws and regulations.	Jan-June 2015	In progress	Local consultants are working with MOF Legal Affairs Dept. to develop a report on public consultation of MOF on public finance issues.
1.6. Innovative partnerships to advance a clear legal and regulatory framework established					

MOJ020	1.6	Develop an academic partnership between Vietnamese law schools and Tulane Law School to develop curriculum and train staff in legal drafting and development. Improve the training capacity of lecturers at Hanoi Law University and other law schools for legal drafting skills.	Cont. from last year		
TFA001	1.6	Technical assistance provided to help strengthen the relationship between Vietnam Customs and the business community to facilitate their business and operations in all activities related to Customs issues including: completing the legal framework to promote the development of Customs-to-business partnership, and supporting the implementation of partnership programs with AEOs, compliant traders, and Customs brokers.	Cont. from last year		
COMPONENT 2: IMPROVING ACCOUNTABILITY OF PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS					
	2.1. Government oversight processes strengthened				
NA006	2.1	Develop regulations on the order, sequence, and details of oversight activities of the NA and its Standing Committee. Areas of support will include defining the role of the Department, and supporting implementation of oversight regulations.	Apr-Sept 2015	In progress	A training course on Information Analysis and Report Writing Skills for NA staff was organized in Bac Giang in May 2015. Gender mainstreaming and inclusive growth were introduced in this training course. GIG will support on follow-on trainings and a workshop in the next quarter. GIG will also support for the development of the regulations as referenced in the AWP.
NA012	2.1	Support internal resources and procedures of the Committee. Activities to include support for review of relevant LNDs for complaints and petitions, and consultations on internal systems for managing requests and information effectively and efficiently.	Jan-Sept 2015	In progress	Local partner is reviewing CVs of consultants.
NA020	2.1	Assist the Law Committee in conducting some Q&A sessions (deliberative hearings) in accordance with the working schedule of the Committee. Coordinate with Oversight Department on developing oversight procedures and rules.	Jan-Sept 2015	Not yet started	Considering for another activity.

NA021	2.1	Conduct a training needs assessment for NA deputies and staff.	Jan-March 2015	In progress	Questionnaire for the training needs assessment is being developed. And GIG is preparing an analysis of the current training plan.
MPI003	2.1	Support public procurement mechanisms, such as certification, through assessment, planning, and initial implementation.	Jan-Sept 2015	In progress	A series of technical discussions and a dialogue to seek inputs for the procurement profession license and the circular on procurement training were conducted in Hanoi in June 2015. A draft report providing recommendations on procurement profession licence framework and circular was produced by international and national consultants. Consultations will conclude in the following quarter with GIG's consultant presenting the draft framework in July.
SAV004	2.1	Support SAV in finalizing the draft revised State Audit Law, and then disseminating its implementing documents after the Law is promulgated. Support to include: (i) drafting assistance including harmonization with other laws such as the State Budget Law, (ii) coordination with the NA on drafting and deliberation, (iii) guidelines for implementation, and (iv) development of regulations.	Jan-June 2015	In progress	The final report was submitted to NA and SAV. SAV has asked GIG to pause this activity so that GIG can work on regulations under it.
SAV005	2.1	Develop a model of operational divisions in the units performing audit operations. Support to include offering ongoing organizational consulting on SAV's structure and roles of departments.	Jan-June 2015	In progress	DTA has been cleared and consultant identified.
SAV006	2.1	Offer training and support SAV's capacity to train its officers. Activities to include: (i) identify a topic for training to serve as the pilot module, based on assessed needs; (ii) create training materials; (iii) conduct ToTs; and (iv) institutionalize. As part of process, assist SAV in reviewing governing norms of audit area and drafting guidelines for that area. The first module will serve as a model, which may then be replicated in other areas.	Jan-Sept 2015	Preparing	Local partner is to send the official request on audit program.

SAV001	2.1	Support 2 officers to attend the audit specialized training course organized by US GAO and to establish partnership with US GAO. Upon their return, organize workshop to share their experiences.	Oct 2014-Sept 2015	In progress	SAV to send CVs of 4 candidates to GIG and USAID for selection. The candidates will be selected and applications submitted in the following quarter. (SAV007 was changed to SAV001).
2.2. Citizen participation in monitoring and evaluating policy implementation strengthened					
NA013	2.2	Initiate a constituent engagement pilot program to inform MPs on how to process constituent requests under current laws and regulations. Pilot participants will receive informational material and ongoing support from the Committee, hold regular constituent engagement sessions, and report on how each received request was addressed.	Jan-March 2015	Preparing	DTA was finalized and sent to NA for review.
2.3. Transparency on policy implementation effectiveness increased					
MOJ023	2.3	Support monitoring of law implementation and development of tools to enable citizens to provide feedback on implementation of laws (alternative proposal from GIG). Develop methods to clarify and harmonize roles of different departments within MOJ, as appropriate. Study the basis and support development of a Proposed Law on Organizing Law Implementation.	Jan-Sept 2015	Preparing	No further progress this quarter.
MOJ024	2.3	Support monitoring of law implementation and development of tools to enable citizens to provide feedback on implementation of laws (alternative proposal from GIG). Develop methods to clarify and harmonize roles of different departments within MOJ, as appropriate.	Jan-Sept 2015	In progress	DTA has been cleared, and local consultant is being identified using finalized TOR.
MOJ025	2.3	Support monitoring of law implementation and development of tools to enable citizens to provide feedback on implementation of laws (alternative proposal from GIG). Develop methods to clarify and harmonize roles of different departments within MOJ, as appropriate.	Jan-Sept 2015	Delayed	No further progress this quarter.

MOJ027	1.1	Support establishment of an equitable and transparent dispute resolution mechanism to deal with investor-state disputes promptly and efficiently within the framework of TPP and agreements on promotion and protection of investment.	July-Dec 2015	In progress	DTA was cleared. Consultant recruitment process is ongoing.
MOF001	2.3	Improve the public procurement mechanism in coordination with MPI's Public Procurement Agency (PPA).	TBD	Preparing	In discussion with MOF.
MPI005	2.3	Review and assess e-procurement practices in Vietnam. Develop a roadmap for possible future applications. Activities may include workshops and review of international best practices. In the 3rd quarter, the scope was changed upon request of MPI and after consultation with USAID to the following: E-procurement support and strategy development. Activities include training for PPA officials public outreach campaign.	April-Sept 2015	In progress	Recruited national and international consultant. The needs assessment took place in this quarter, with subsequent training by international consultant to take place in the following quarter.
MPI006	2.3	Improve the efficiency and decentralization of public investments to promote transparency and central-local coordination. Support to include continued capacity development and inputs on capital investment policies, and may include workshops, consultancies, or trainings.	Oct 2014-Sept 2015	In progress	The study on decentralization of public investment is being drafted. The workshop to collect inputs of this study will be organized in July 2015.
NA009	2.3	Organize training for Committee staff based on identified needs, including those recommended in Year 1. Potential topics include budget review and development, and coordination with government bodies.	Apr-Sept 2015	In progress	Trainer recruitment process is on going. Trainings will take place in the following quarter.
NA019	2.3	Convene regular law forums to allow stakeholders, citizen groups, and GVN representatives to discuss and provide recommendations on select draft laws. Forum topics will include the Law on the Organization of the Local Governments, the Law on Oversight, and the Law on Laws. Forums will be designed to address issues related to each law. For example, a Law on Audit Forum could serve as a forum for the SAV and the NA. In addition, laws initiated by NA deputies should be highlighted.	Oct 2014-Sept 2015	In progress	Summer NA sessions is on going so no new activity for this quarter.

NA007	2.3	Support the revision of the State Budget Law. Activities to include: (i) gather information on implementation of the current Budget Law at the subnational level, including recommendations for revisions; (ii) disseminate findings to MPs; (iii) organize a workshop before the Spring NA session to seek comments from experts and concerned agencies; (iv) offer assistance in consolidating recommendations (including recommendations from Year 1) for the final version of the revised law. All activities will also include a review of Decision 387 and best practices on inclusive budgeting.	Oct 2014-June 2015	In progress	All the inputs for State Budget Law were delivered. The State Budget Law was passed in June 2015. The review of Decision 387 to implement this Law will be conducted in next quarter.
MOJ033	1.1	Support Development of the Law on Access to Information: Provide technical expertise in reviewing the provisions on access to information in various international commitments, international agreements, and select laws of other countries, especially laws recently enacted or laws from countries similar to Vietnam.	Jan 2015-Sept 2016	In progress	The RIA report of Law on Access to Information was submitted and approved. The review of National Law Provisions on Access to Information was submitted and approved. With regard to international law review on freedom of information, the first deliverable was submitted.
2.4. Quality of information and analysis for evaluating policy implementation effectiveness improved					
MOF002	2.4	Assess the impact of the TPP on various economic sectors and State budget revenues, under Decision 68/2014/QĐ-BTC (8 Jan 2014) of the Minister of Finance, issuing the MOF Action Plan to implement Resolution 01/NQ-CP (2 Jan 2014) on implementation of the socio-economic development plan.	Apr-Sept 2015	In progress	A training on research methodologies to measure impact of FTAs on state revenue, and a policy roundtable to discuss impact of FTAs on state revenue were organized in Hanoi in June 2015. Further trainings will take place in the next quarter.
NA011	2.4	Review and enhance the NA Library's capacity to support legislative forums and dialogues, working in coordination with the Law Committee and other relevant committees.	Jan-Sept 2015	In progress	The first policy forum on oil impact fluctuation was organized. The mapping on social feedback mechanism is on hold, pending PMU's approval. The second issue forum is being developed.
NA005	2.4	Continue Year 1 work on the Instant Support System. Once implemented, provide additional support for accessing resources, such as the Global Legal Information Network (GLIN), or others.	Oct 2014-March 2015	In progress	Phase 1 of the ISS was completed. Phase 2 will be developed, based on the comments after the NA session in May 2015.

NA018	2.4	Provide training support to new ILS staff on legislative research and analysis.	Apr-June 2015	Preparing	The focus is changing at the request of both USAID and the NA.
MPI007	2.4	Continue Year 1 efforts to support MPI's review and implementation of the State Budget Law.	Oct 2014-June 2015	In progress	Supported for budget transparency and MTEF. The support on public investment will be conducted in next quarter.
SAV003	2.4	Based on final IT Master Plan, identify area of support and collaborate with IT Center on incorporating enhanced IT systems and procedures. In addition, consult on database and information management.	Oct 2014-March 2015	In progress	Discussing with the partner on IT audit. (The code was changed to SAV003 from SAV008).
MPI004	2.4	Support review of the USG procurement system and its experiences meeting international commitments on government procurement. Activities to include a workshop and relevant skills development. Organize workshops to disseminate information about international commitments related to government procurement.	Jan-June 2015	In progress	Recruited a national consultant to support international consultant and contextualize international experiences into Vietnamese conditions. Consultations will take place in the next quarter.
MPI002	2.4	Develop a Circular or guidelines on implementation of the Public Procurement Law. Support will include (i) review of and development of initial Circular(s); (ii) consultations with PPA on implementation and dissemination; (iii) possible support for additional Circulars. Organize workshops in 3 regions to obtain comments and inputs on LNDs, including review of the Public Procurement Law.	Oct 2014-Dec 2015	In progress	The Circular on direct contracting and shopping was submitted to PPA for review and approval. MPI is submitting a request for a second Circular on bidding evaluation.
2.5. Quality of the media's reporting on policy implementation improved					
NA004	2.5	Conduct a needs assessment, and (based on assessment) draft and initiate an action plan for four areas: (i) improving media relations; (ii) internal capacity development of Department staff; (iii) development of tools (e.g., website); and (iv) NA-wide support (including training of spokespersons).	Jan-Sept 2015	In progress	Communication strategy and trainings were completed, except one training for spokespersons and web development.
2.6. Innovative partnerships to advance improved accountability of public institutions established					
	2.6	No activity yet			

CWT001	1.1	Build capacity and support implementation for combatting wildlife trafficking (CWT).	Apr-Dec 2015	Preparing	Developing scope of work for implementation by subcontractors.
COMPONENT 3: IMPROVING INCLUSION AND EQUALITY FOR MARGINALIZED GROUPS					
3.1. Legal and regulatory barriers for women, ethnic minorities, and other vulnerable groups' equality reduced					
MOJ021	3.1	Support development of LNDs to implement provisions of the Law on Family and Marriage concerning vulnerable groups, such as women, people with disabilities, people living with HIV, LGBT, and ethnic minorities.	Oct 2014-Sept 2015	In progress	The support to the development of the LNDs to implement the Law was provided and the Decree 126/2014 was issued with 5 Articles (2-6) related to the application of customs and traditions in marriage and family. Training courses in Hanoi for judges and community village heads were held in June 2015. Continued support focused on the development of the guidelines to implement effectively these Articles.
MOJ022	3.1	Provide capacity building to legal aid officers and lawyers-collaborators, as needed related to the Law on Legal Aid and legal aid service provision.	Jan-June 2015	Delayed	This activity is on hold. Discussions are being made with the partner (Legal Aid Agency of MOJ).
MOJ028	3.1	Support development of a Prime Ministerial Decision amending and adding to Decision 09/2003/QĐ-TTg (24 Jan 2013) providing law accessibility standards.	Oct 2014-Sept 2015	In progress	Field trips on the implementation of legal access standards at the local level were conducted in Ca Mau and Thai Binh. A workshop to disseminate the findings of the report on legal access standards at local level will be organized in August 2015. Proposal to revise Decision 09 will be submitted to PM after the dissemination workshop, possibly later this year.
MOJ029	3.1	Survey, assess, and propose options for development of local communities to meet law access standards.	Oct 2014-Sept 2015	In progress	See above (MOJ028 and MOJ029 were combined).
MOJ032	3.1	Develop Guidelines for Gender Mainstreaming in LND drafting, under the new Law on Promulgation of LNDs.	Apr-Sept 2015	In progress	MOJ032 merged with MOJ014. See below.

MOJ014	3.1	Develop a 2015 Action Plan for Gender Equality. Develop Guidelines for Gender Mainstreaming in LND drafting, under the new Law on Promulgation of LNDs.	Oct 2014-Sept 2015	In progress	DTA was approved and the consultant was recruited. Workshop on barriers to gender mainstreaming in LND drafting will be organized in July to finalize the gender mainstreaming procedures in law making as a support to the implementation of the newly approved Law on Laws.
MOJ002	3.1	Gender mainstreaming Feedback Workshop	July-Sept 2014		
NA014	3.1	Support a workshop to review LNDs on internal migration and assess the situation of in-migration, particularly of ethnic minorities. Workshop outputs to include recommendations to be incorporated into the draft Law on Population.	Jan-March 2015	Cancelled	Considering for another activity.
NA022	3.1	Integration of gender budgeting principles into the Draft Revised Law on State Budget	Jan-March 2015	In progress	The activity (and DTA) was extended in this quarter. The newly adopted SBL incorporated gender equality and gender budgeting issues into Article 8 and 41. A workshop to actualize gender budgeting will be organized in July to finalize gender budgeting guidelines.
3.2. Women, ethnic minorities, and other vulnerable groups' participation and voice in policy dialogue increased					
NA016	3.2	Organize a workshop on the implementation of laws concerning the recruitment, training, and professional development of officers, public employees, and civil servants belonging to ethnic minority groups.	Jan-June 2015	Delayed	NA Ethnic Council requested to delay this activity till next year.
NA017	3.2	Provide skills training for NA deputies and deputies of People's Councils from ethnic minorities, to enhance their ability to take part in law-making and mainstreaming relevant policy issues on behalf of their constituencies.	Jan-Sept 2015	Delayed	See above (NA016 and NA017 are combined).
3.3. Data and analysis on women, ethnic minorities, and other vulnerable groups improved					
NA015	3.3	Conduct research and produce a paper on Access to Information for Ethnic Minority Groups. Activities to include field research and workshops, and recommendations to support GVN counterparts and other stakeholders to engage ethnic minority groups through public outreach in Vietnam's governance process, enabling the use of evidence-based research in supporting citizen participation in public policy.	Jan 2014-September 2015	In progress	The desk review was completed and the report was approved. The field trip will be conducted in next quarter.

VWEC001	3.3	Preparation of VWEC Development Strategy 2020, enhancing VWEC's vision and mission, development of membership and database.	Oct-Dec 2014		
VWEC002	3.3	Assess and build the communications capacity of VWEC to improve dissemination of information to members and citizens	Oct 2014 - June 2015	In progress	Training on communication skills for VWEC is on hold, pending PMU's approval.
VWEC003	3.3	Strengthening Vietnam Women Entrepreneurs Council capacity in managing members. Support VWEC with the tool to develop, administer and serve its members more effectively, especially in the face of the upcoming free trade agreements.	April-Sept 2015	Preparing	This activity is on hold, pending PMU's approval.
HNEW002	3.3	Policy advocacy forum and the role of women entrepreneurs in policy development.	Oct 2014- June 2015	In progress	The planned forum on the business of women entrepreneurs in the context of FTAs for the central region was delayed, pending PMU's approval.
3.4. Access to economic opportunity for women, ethnic minorities, and other vulnerable groups improved					
3.5. Innovative partnerships to advance women, ethnic minorities, and other vulnerable groups' inclusion established					
		No activity yet			
CROSS CUTTING ACTIVITIES AND AD-HOC ACTIVITIES					
DTA Activity Number	KRA	Activity Detail			
APS002		Grant award (CEPEW)	Apr-June 2015	Cancelled	
APS003		Grant award (TAF)	TBD	Not yet started	
GIG__10		Build on bill drafting and public communications TA & training for GVN counterparts, to include CSO partners in these key policy advocacy capacities	TBD	Not yet started	
GIG__11		- Forum - Grants	TBD	Not yet started	
GIG__12		Facilitate and strengthen a coalition advocating for a Law on Access to Information (LAI) in	Apr-Sept 2015	Cancelled	

		coordination with the People's Participation Working Group (PPWG).			
GIG__13		Support improved dissemination of government information and data to stakeholders through improved GVN websites.	TBD	Not yet started	
GIG__14		Advise GVN counterparts on their development of communications strategies targeting ethnic minority groups.	TBD	Not yet started	Research paper to be completed by August 2015 which will inform the activity.
GIG__15		Enable SOs to conduct training for journalists in reporting skills to improve transparency of laws and regulations.	June 2015-June 2016	Delayed	Pending approval of APS activities.
GIG__16	3.4	Support VINASME to provide inputs /contribute to the development of Law on SMEs development support and advocate for the enactment of the law that completes a business enabling environment for SMEs. The activity will also support VINASME to undertake the inclusion programs that will ultimately improve SMEs access to finance and build up capacity for the small business segment.	Apr-Sept 2015	Preparing	Discussing with C2 to develop a new DTA to involve MPI in this activity.
GUC101	1.6.1	Vietnam Trade Facilitation Alliance (VTFA)	March 2015-April 2016	In progress	Grant agreement was signed on 20 April 2015 and initial activities were implemented. Reached out to private sector organizations to promote understanding of and support for the objectives of the VTFA. Working with Vietnam Customs, in cooperation with our Vietnam business association partners, on the exact modalities of providing the technical assistance and expert consultations.
GUC301	3.4	Strengthen awareness and capacity of local people and relevant agencies in order to ensure women's rights to have their names on Land Use Rights Certificates in Tan Lac and Lac Son districts in Hoa Binh province.	Jan-June 2015	Delayed	This activity is on hold, pending PMU's approval.

Annex 2: Indicator Data Summary Table

Indicator	Y2 Target	Q1 Target	Q1 Actual	Q2 Target	Q2 Actual	Q3 Target	Q3 Actual	Year 2 YTD	Q3 Notes
Project Goal: Governance enhanced to facilitate broad-based, sustainable growth									
0.0.1 Ease of Doing Business rank/Distance to Frontier measure	64							N/A	Updated annually.
0.0.2 CPIA public sector management and institutions cluster average	4							N/A	Updated annually.
0.0.3 CPIA policies for social inclusion/equity cluster average	4							N/A	Updated annually.
Project Intermediate Result 1: Improved legal and regulatory framework									
1.0.1 Time to export/import (days)	20/20							N/A	Updated annually.
1.0.2 Ranking on transparency of Government Policymaking by WEF	110							N/A	Updated annually.
1.0.3 Percent of TPP required legislative changes and supporting regulations that have been drafted with GIG assistance upon partners' requests.	TBD							N/A	Updated annually. TPP has not been signed so the target for this indicator will be set later. The achieved result will be reported when relevant activities are implemented.
KRA 1.1. High quality laws and regulations developed									

Indicator	Y2 Target	Q1 Target	Q1 Actual	Q2 Target	Q2 Actual	Q3 Target	Q3 Actual	Year 2 YTD	Q3 Notes
1.1.1. Number of policies/laws/regulations/procedures drafted, revised, and/or adopted to enhance governance and/or facilitate private sector participation and competitive markets as a result of GIG assistance	10	2	10	3	6	2	9	25	<p>1- State Audit Law adopted during NA session in June 2015 (SAV004).</p> <p>2- Law on Local Governments adopted during NA session in June 2015 (NA019).</p> <p>3- Amended Law on Import and Export duties is being drafted and will be submitted to NA in October 2015 for review and approval (TFA004).</p> <p>4- Circular 72/2015/TT-BTC issued on 12 May 2015 regulating on application of priority policy in customs procedures, customs inspections and supervisions for exported and imported goods of enterprises (AEO) (TFA004).</p> <p>5- Amended Circular 126 on procedures for declaration, collection, payment of taxes, late payment interests, fines, and other amounts payable upon export and import is being drafted, which is expected to be issued next quarter (TFA004).</p> <p>6- Amended MOH Circular on food safety under the State management of the MOH on imported and exported food is being drafted and expected to be issued next quarter (CIEM004).</p> <p>7- Circular on procurement training is being drafted and expected to be issued in next quarter (MPI003).</p> <p>8- Official full draft of the Law on Administrative Decisions published for public comments in May 2015 (MOJ016).</p> <p>9 -Final draft of Circular on Guiding Request for Proposals on Direct Contracting and Shopping submitted to PPA for review and approval (MPI002).</p> <p>--> Total 9 (3 laws, 6 circulars; 3 issued, 1 published for public comments, 1 officially submitted to the government, 4 being drafted/revised.)</p> <p>The following regulations remain in the drafting process in this quarter and will be counted when they advance to the next stage: the Circular on Self Certification of Origin under ASEAN scheme (MOIT003), the Circular on Management of Unsafe Goods (MOIT002).</p>
KRA 1.2. Improved policy development process									

Indicator	Y2 Target	Q1 Target	Q1 Actual	Q2 Target	Q2 Actual	Q3 Target	Q3 Actual	Year 2 YTD	Q3 Notes
1.2.1. Number of GIG- assisted activities to enhance policy development process	7	1	1	2	4	2	2	7	<p>1- A series of training courses on Skills for Implementing a Regulatory Impact Assessment (RIA) for lecturers from universities and APD (Academy of Policy and Development) in the North and the South and RIA training materials were delivered (CIEM005).</p> <p>2- Support Customs to categorize B&C commitments of Vietnam under the WTO TFA in order to submit to the WTO Committee on TF. The result of the workshop in May is being consulted with relevant stakeholders (State agencies and businesses) (TFA004).</p> <p>During this quarter, the training series on Rules of Origin under FTAs was continued to be delivered for policy makers and implementers in HCMC to improve the capacity in developing and implementing of policies on rules of origin and origin certification, monitoring and inspection (MOIT014). In addition, the project supported Customs to develop a proposal on establishment of the NTFC (National Committee on Trade Facilitation) under the WTO TFA (TFA004) - this will be recorded later in the year.</p>
KRA 1.3. Improved information systems and evidence-based analysis for policy making									

Indicator	Y2 Target	Q1 Target	Q1 Actual	Q2 Target	Q2 Actual	Q3 Target	Q3 Actual	Year 2 YTD	Q3 Notes
1.3.1. Number of evidence-based policy analyses conducted with GIG support	10	2	1	2	4	3	5	10	<p>1- Analysis reports providing technical inputs for the revised Civil Code on governing scope, contracting, ownership, and heritage completed (MOJ019).</p> <p>2- In-depth policy analyses to provide recommendations for simplification of policy and administrative procedures to implement Resolution 19/2015 in following indicators: Getting Credit, Resolving Insolvency, Registering Property, Enforcing Contracts completed. The CIEM quarterly report on implementation of Resolution 19/2015 of the Government to submit the Prime Minister developed with GIG inputs (CIEM004).</p> <p>3- The RIA report of Law on Access to Information was finalized in April 2015. A list of international instruments, guidelines and documents on access to information was submitted (MOJ033).</p> <p>4- The RIA report of Law of Admin Decisions was finalized in May 2015 (MOJ016).</p> <p>5- A review of international audit laws in relation to the State Audit Law of Vietnam was finalized and sent to NA and SAV in April 2015 (SAV004).</p> <p>During this quarter, the project supported Customs to review legal documents on specialized management of import-export goods with customs and different ministries, to serve for the proposal to the Prime Minister on simplification of customs procedures (TFA004). The review of National Law Provisions on Access to Information was completed, and the international law review on freedom of information has not been submitted (MOJ033). The RIA report for Civil Code continues to be in the drafting process (MOJ019). These will be recorded later when finalized.</p>
1.3.2. Number of information systems established or substantially upgraded with GIG support	2	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	<p>1- The Instant Support System for NA Library was installed, tested, and was put into operation for NA Deputies (NA005).</p> <p>During this quarter, a series of training courses on the online national database on administrative procedures and regulations were delivered to staff in government agencies and the online system will be officially launched later in the year (MOJ034). The Electronic Notification system of TBT is under construction and is expected to be completed in the next quarter (STAM001).</p>
KRA 1.4. Increased transparency of laws and regulations									

Indicator	Y2 Target	Q1 Target	Q1 Actual	Q2 Target	Q2 Actual	Q3 Target	Q3 Actual	Year 2 YTD	Q3 Notes
1.4.1 Number of sections codified and/or systemized conducted with GIG assistance	5	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	A seminar on implementation of codification organized in April 2015 (MOJ011). Work with MOIT to deploy the codification of sections under MOIT management areas is ongoing. Actual codification of sections will be conducted in upcoming quarters.
KRA 1.5. Strengthened public consultation and stakeholder engagement mechanisms in policy development									
1.5.1. Number of GIG-supported public consultation events to improve Vietnam's legal and regulatory framework	20	5	7	4	3	5	6	16	1- A series of consultation workshops on draft revised Law on Import and Export Duties in Hanoi and HCMC (TFA004). 2- A consultation workshop on Health Provisions in the draft revised Civil Code in Hanoi (MOJ019). 3- A Consultation workshop on implementation and revision of Circular 126/2014/TT-BTC in HCMC in June 2015 (TFA004). 4- A series of workshops on Self-certification of Origin in Free Trade Agreements in Hanoi and HCMC (MOIT014). 5- A workshop on Establishing the National Committee on Trade Facilitation in Hanoi in May 2015 (TFA004). 6- A workshop on Implementation of Resolution 19 on Improving Vietnam's Business Environment and Enhancing National Competitiveness in Hanoi in June 2015 (CIEM004).
Project Intermediate Result 2: Improved accountability of public institutions									
2.0.1. Open Budget Index score	19							N/A	Updated annually.
2.0.2. Median scores of transparency indicator in PCI	6							N/A	To update on annual basis
KRA 2.1. Strengthened government oversight processes									
2.1.1. Number of activities to support executive oversight process receiving GIG assistance	2	0	1	0	0	1	2	3	1- A training course on Information Analysis and Report Writing Skills for ONA staff in Bac Giang in May 2015, based on the Oversight Department's needs assessment (NA006). 2- Improved MPs oversight capacity through the development of Instant Support System, first used in NA session in May/June 2015 (NA005).
2.1.2. Number of training sessions on audits for staff from relevant GIG partners	2	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	Discussing with SAV.
KRA 2.2. Strengthened citizen participation in monitoring and evaluating policy implementation									

Indicator	Y2 Target	Q1 Target	Q1 Actual	Q2 Target	Q2 Actual	Q3 Target	Q3 Actual	Year 2 YTD	Q3 Notes
2.2.1. Number of GIG-supported activities designed to promote or strengthen the participation of citizens in monitoring and evaluating policy implementation	2	1	1	0	1	1	1	3	1- Roundtable to discuss impact of FTAs on state revenue in Hanoi in June 2015 (MOF002).
KRA 2.3. Increased transparency on policy implementation effectiveness									
2.3.1. Number of GIG-supported activities designed to strengthen the budget process	4	1	1	1	1	1	2	4	1- Report on law harmonization completed for 3 laws (State Budget Law, Public Investment Law and Public Debt Law). In addition, a comprehensive law review and harmonization completed, comparing between draft State Budget Law and current legal documents and new law drafts (NA007). 2- Supported implementation of State Budget Law through the introduction of MTEF in a training session in Vinh Phuc and a seminar in Hanoi for staff of MPI and MOF in May 2015 (MPI007).
2.3.2. Number of GIG-supported activities to increase transparency on policy implementation in Vietnam	4	1	0	1	2	1	4	6	1- Policy Forum on Fluctuation of Oil Prices in 2014-2015: Advantages, Challenges and Solutions for Vietnam in Hanoi, April 2015 (NA019). 2- Seminar on Enhancing Accountability and Transparency of State Budget was organized in Hanoi, June 2015 (MPI007). 3- Series of meetings and dialogue to seek inputs for the procurement profession license and the Circular on procurement training in Hanoi, June 2015. A draft report providing recommendations on procurement profession license framework and Circular was produced (MPI003). 4- A training course on research methodologies to measure impact of FTAs on state revenue in Hanoi, June 2015 (MOF002).
KRA 2.4. Improved quality of information and analysis for evaluating policy implementation effectiveness									
2.4.1. Number of policy implementation assessments conducted with GIG support	2	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	1- Evaluation report on transparency in budget planning and budget expenditure reporting submitted (MPI007). Report on TPP impact is being prepared and not completed (MOF002).
KRA 2.5. Improved quality of the media's reporting on policy implementation									

Indicator	Y2 Target	Q1 Target	Q1 Actual	Q2 Target	Q2 Actual	Q3 Target	Q3 Actual	Year 2 YTD	Q3 Notes
2.5.1. Number of training days on journalism and media relations skills with GIG assistance, measured by person-days of training.	150	0	35	50	0	50	273	308	Training on Communication Strategy Development for 36 ONA staff for 2 days, Seminar on the Social Responsibility of Media in News Reporting on National Assembly Activities for 73 journalists and ONA staff for 1 day, Training on Media and Crisis Management for 40 ONA staff for 1.5 days, and Training on Television Reporting and Presentation Skills for 34 journalists, lecturers of Journalism, and staff of Journalism Training Center for 2 days (NA004).
Project Intermediate Result 3: Improved inclusion									
KRA 3.1. Legal and regulatory barriers for women, ethnic minorities, and other vulnerable groups' equality reduced									
3.1.1. Number of laws, policies or procedures drafted, revised and/or issued to support inclusion of vulnerable population.	3	1	2	0	2	1	5	9	<p>1- Amended State Budget Law adopted during NA session in June 2015 (NA007).</p> <p>2- Revised Law on Laws adopted in NA session in June 2015 (NA009).</p> <p>3 -Official draft of the Law on Access to Information, including GIG's technical comments on law development and equal access to information of the vulnerable groups, published for public consultation in May 2015 (MOJ033).</p> <p>4- Draft revised Civil Code submitted to NA in May 2015 for review and debate. GIG continued to provide support for this Code, including inputs on health provisions, governing scope, contracting, ownership, heritage, and finalization of legal texts in this quarter (MOJ019).</p> <p>5- Guidelines for the development of lists of customs and traditions and effective application of the customs and traditions in solving disputes in marriage and family among ethnic minorities were drafted. These Guidelines provide the instructions for the implementation of Articles 2-6 of Decree 126/2014/NDCP on the implementation of some issues in the Law on Marriage and Family. It is expected these guidelines will be finalized in the next quarter (MOJ021).</p> <p>--> 2 adopted, 1 submitted to NA, 1 published for public consultation, 1 drafted.</p> <p>In addition, the project started supporting adjustment to guidelines on gender mainstreaming in the Law on Laws (MOJ014).</p>
KRA 3.2. Women, ethnic, minorities, and other vulnerable groups' participation and voice increased in policy dialogues									

Indicator	Y2 Target	Q1 Target	Q1 Actual	Q2 Target	Q2 Actual	Q3 Target	Q3 Actual	Year 2 YTD	Q3 Notes
3.2.1. Number of USG assisted civil society organizations that participate in legislative proceedings and/or engage in advocacy with national legislature and its committees.	10	2	4	2	6	3	2	12	The new active CSOs participating in advocacy activities include RAFH (Institute for Reproductive and Family Health) and RTCCD (Research and Training Center for Community Development), both of these contributed to the revised Civil Code. Other CSOs continued to engage in advocacy activities in this quarter, e.g. ICS, iSEE.
3.2.2. Number of GIG-supported events designed to promote the target groups' participation and voice in policy dialogues	7	2	3	2	2	2	2	7	1- Trainings on the Law on Marriage and Family 2014 and Effective Application of Customs in Marriage and Family for judges and community village heads delivered in Hanoi, June 2015 (MOJ021). 2 - Field Assessments and workshops on the Implementation of Legal Access Standards at the Local Level conducted in Thai Binh, May and Ca Mau, June 2015 (MOJ028).
KRA 3.3. Improved data and analysis on gender, ethnic minorities, and other vulnerable groups' equality									
3.3.1. Number of policy research initiatives conducted on gender, ethnic minorities, and other vulnerable groups with GIG assistance that use data and analysis to support the policy proposals	3	1	1	1	1	1	0	2	The social feedback mechanism mapping and action research workshop are on hold, pending PMU's approval (NA011). The gender impact analysis report in the Law of Administrative Decisions is pending PMU's instruction (MOJ016).
3.3.2. Number of GIG-assisted activities to promote women's leadership and entrepreneurship and empower GIG's target groups	3	1	2	1	2	1	0	4	The planned workshop with HNEW on business leadership and management in the context of FTAs/TPP for central provinces is on hold, pending PMU's approval (HNEW002).
KRA 3.4. Improved access to economic opportunity for women, ethnic minorities, and other vulnerable groups									

Indicator	Y2 Target	Q1 Target	Q1 Actual	Q2 Target	Q2 Actual	Q3 Target	Q3 Actual	Year 2 YTD	Q3 Notes
3.4.1. Number of GIG-supported activities designed to increase access by target groups to productive economic resources (assets, credit, income or employment) and legal facilities	4	1	0	1	1	1	1	2	<p>1- Trainings for communicators/disseminators and contests for local people on women rights to land access organized in Tan Lac and Lac Son districts of Hoa Binh province in April 2015, following planning workshop and training for authorities in the last quarter (GUC301).</p> <p>The field assessments on community legal access standards in Thai Binh and Ca Mau conducted, followed by a draft report. A workshop to disseminate the findings of this report will be organized in August 2015. A proposal to PM on recommendations for changes of Decision 09 is being drafted and will be released later this year. This activity will be recorded later in the system after further developments (MOJ028).</p>
Cross-cutting output indicators									
C.0.1. Number of public-private partnerships formed and/or strengthened as a result of GIG assistance	5	1	2	1	0	2	0	2	<p>No new partnerships formed during the quarter.</p> <p>GIG started working with Tax Consulting Association to systemize tax regulations and add explanatory notes and guidance to facilitate understanding and compliance of business community. It aims to improve the capacity of Tax Consulting Association as a bridge between tax administration and businesses.</p> <p>Decision 1200/QD-TCHQ dated 25 April 2015 on customs-business consultation mechanism was issued (the customs-business partnership was formed and recorded earlier). Customs then conducted 9 consultations with 9 local customs authorities. GIG also helped big associations such as VITAS, VASEP, VAMA bring in their comments, proposals to relevant State agencies (MOF, GDVC, etc.) (TFA001).</p>
C.0.2. Person hours completed in capacity building events supported by GIG	30,000	7,000	20,497	7,000	20,558	8,000	26,397	67,452	<p>A total of 36 events (trainings, seminars, workshops, conferences, fora, dialogues) were organized during Apr-June 2015 for a total of 2322 participants (45% women), resulting in 26,397 person hours.</p>

Indicator	Y2 Target	Q1 Target	Q1 Actual	Q2 Target	Q2 Actual	Q3 Target	Q3 Actual	Year 2 YTD	Q3 Notes
C.0.3. Number of vulnerable people reached by USAID-supported programs that promote health, social and economic opportunities	1,600	400	0	400	54	400	1,164	1,218	The vulnerable people reached include mostly ethnic minorities participating in trainings and contests on land rights campaigns for women implemented by CCRD in Hoa Binh province (GUC301). Ethnic minorities also received training on Law on Marriage and Family and Effective Application of Customs in Marriage and Family (MOJ021) and transgendered people attended the Consultation on Health Provisions in the draft revised Civil Code (MOJ019).